

*Hafa Adai!*

Ex-DPS chief, cop shouldn't be allowed to sidestep jury trial. **PAGE 2**  
Education Commissioner Sablan not guilty. **PAGE 3**

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75¢

## Police brutality at DOC

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

**T**wo Department of Corrections officers are under investigation for police brutality after they allegedly beat up an inmate inside his cell at DOC in Susupe last April 4, according to sources.

» **2 Corrections officers under investigation for allegedly beating up inmate**

the back.

Sources said Cavalear also had red

Sources disclosed that the inmate, Ryan D. Cavalear, 33, suffered red marks on his neck from being strangled and a bruise on

marks on both wrists and scratches on the legs.

Cavalear refused to be taken to the hospital.

Sources said the beating was captured by camera.

The two officers have been assigned to the administrative section at DOC after the incident and while in-

**See POLICE on Page 4**

## BSI CEO: We pay taxes

» **Casino opposes gaming tax on top of other fees, taxes**

By **FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON**  
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REPORTER

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. wanted to clarify to the public that they are paying taxes—however, not casino taxes.

In a press conference, BSI chief executive officer Mark Brown said he wanted to give emphasis for the people to “understand and know that we are paying a lot of tax.”

Brown was acting in response to previous media reports, which in their view, got the public confused that they don't pay taxes at all.



Brown

Brown said BSI has contributed to the CNMI treasury about \$70 million on just mainly taxes of gross revenues and fees.

Brown mentioned some of these fees saying that from the beginning, they have paid a \$ 1 million application fee for their license. They also already paid the first, second, and fifth year of the license fee of \$15 million a year totaling \$45 million, \$3 mil-

**See BSI on Page 4**

## ‘Sugar tax’ passes House; now heads to governor

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**  
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives yesterday passed a bill to tax sugar-sweetened beverages, powders, and syrups 4 cents per ounce, a move that was called “excessive” by business people, but praised by proponents as a good first step in combating health pandemics in the CNMI. The bill now heads to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for action.

The public debate over House Bill 19-99 pitted business officials against public health officials who presented compelling and passionate arguments for both sides. Business people cited

the immediate and real effects of 100-percent price increases and said jobs would be lost, while bill proponents stressed the health of the community and funds that could go to health programs.

Opponents of the bill said, among others, gave examples that a can of Aloha at 85 cents now would rise

**See SUGAR TAX on Page 4**

DENNIS B. CHAN

Dr. Don Hardt brought a bunch of beverages dubiously marketed as natural or healthy to the podium during a public comment period at a House of Representatives session that debated the “sugar tax” bill yesterday. The House passed the bill and it now heads to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' desk.



## INSIDE



### LOCAL

A betel nut intervention trial study will be tested in the CNMI and Guam this year as part of a continuing study on the use of the betel nut and how to promote cessation.

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### Primary winners

	CT	DE	MD	PA	RI
Delegates*	55	21	95	189	24
Clinton					
Sanders					
Delegates	28	16	38	71	19
Trump					

### NATION

In a front-runner's rout, Republican Donald Trump roared to victory Tuesday in five contests across the Northeast.

**PAGE 17**



### LIFE & STYLE

The fantasy favorite “Game of Thrones” returned for its sixth season with what may or may not be the show's most-watched episode ever.

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## Local

### Prosecutor: Ex-DPS commissioner, cop shouldn't be allowed to sidestep jury trial

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General said the Superior Court should not allow former Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero and Police Officer 3 Jesse Concepcion to sidestep a jury trial by permitting them to present an affirmative defense at the preliminary hearing stage.

In the government's brief filed in the Superior Court yesterday, assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley said Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion, both seasoned police officers, are presenting the affirmative defense that they believed a 15-year-old girl was 24, 19, or 18, depending on which of their statements one chooses to believe.

Baisley said according to the defendants, they need not present this defense to a jury of their peers—a defense that revolves exclusively around their credibility and the credibility of their statements—but instead should be permitted to sidestep a jury trial, and have

this court grant a defense for which they have yet to produce a single piece of admissible evidence.

"While defendants' brazenness is unparalleled, their position is easily answered," the prosecutor said.

Baisley said defendants' attempt to resolve a mistake of age defense without a jury has no support in the case law and offends settled legal principles regarding the scope of a preliminary hearing.

Baisley said it is also an attempt to convince the court to decide disputed fact and credibility issues that are squarely within the province of a jury of defendants' peers to decide.

Strikingly, the prosecutor said, defendants wish the court to do all this without having entered a single piece of admissible evidence in support of their position.

"The court should decline such an extreme and legally unsupported approach, and find that defendants' affirmative defense may not be decided at a preliminary hearing, but instead must be presented to a jury of defendants' peers

at trial," he said.

Baisley said the affirmative defense of mistake of age is inextricably tied to the merits of the case, and therefore is inappropriate for the court to decide at a preliminary hearing.

Baisley said the defendants are attempting to convince the court to do what no other court in the U.S. has ever done: find that there is no probable cause, in spite of a confession from both defendants to having sexual intercourse with a minor girl, simply because they assert through counsel, without testifying themselves, that they thought a 15-year-old girl was 18, 19, or 24, depending on which of their statements is accepted.

At a preliminary hearing last Friday, Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Haejun Park testified that Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion confessed during his interview that they had sex with a girl at a secluded San Antonio beach site in June 2013.

Park said Deleon Guerrero, 44, and Concepcion, 45, were surprised when he told them

See **PROSECUTOR** on Page 4

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## FOR VIOLATING RESTRICTION ON USE OF GOVT VEHICLES Education Commissioner Sablan not guilty

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho acquitted yesterday Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan of a traffic case that charged her with three counts of violating the government vehicle provisions of the Commonwealth Code.

At a bench trial, Camacho found Sablan not guilty of the violation of restriction upon use of government vehicles such as driving a government vehicle that does not bear a government license plate, driving an unmarked government vehicle, and operating a government vehicle with tinting on its windows.

Asked for comment about the verdict, Sablan said she is very thankful to her counsel, Brien Sers Nicholas, who did an exceptional job.

"I'm very happy and relieved that it's now over," said the beaming Education commissioner.

Nicholas said the law is very clear and the judge went through with his findings that in order for the car to be a government vehicle it must be leased for over 12 months.

He pointed out that the laws says anything below 12 months is not a government vehicle.

"Just because it's leased doesn't mean that's the end of the story. It has to be registered just like anybody else. Why do you register cars? Because you are the owner of the car," the defense lawyer said.

In granting Nicholas' motion for judgment of acquittal, Camacho found that the prosecution has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the car driven by Sablan is a government vehicle as defined in the Traffic Code requiring a lease to be 12 months or more.

Camacho ruled that because the lease agreement was expired, the law no longer requires that the subject car be considered a government vehicle.

"Because the vehicle was no longer a government vehicle, it was no longer required to display government license plate and markings, and removal of tinting material," the judge pointed out.

The vehicle in question is a white four-door 2011 Honda Accord sedan with license plate AEC-621 that is registered to "Joeten Motor Dept." and leased to the Public School System.

The prosecution alleged that the lease of this car began Jan. 1, 2014, and Sablan was stopped by Police Sgt. Anthony Macaranas in Navy Hill on Jan. 15, 2015, so the government is legally the owner of the vehicle.

Assistant attorney general

Emily Cohen called to the witness stand—Joeten Motors general manager Matthew Deets and Macaranas.

After Macaranas completed his testimony, the prosecution rested the government's case.

Defense counsel Nicholas then moved for judgment of acquittal.

Nicholas argued, among other things, that the government failed their burden that it's a government vehicle.

In the government's opposition to the motion, AAG Cohen said Macaranas saw Sablan came out from the car and driving the vehicle.

Cohen said the car had no marking and was tinted.

Cohen said Joeten Motors stated that it considered that the car was leased to the government.

Cohen said the government had it for three years and the lease was extended.

The prosecutor asserted that there is no doubt that this car was leased by PSS and no doubt that Sablan was the driver.

"You cannot drive this vehicle if you don't comply with the regulations," Cohen pointed out.

After listening to the parties' arguments, Camacho placed the motion under advisement and adjourned before 12noon.

He ordered the parties to come back at 3:30pm yesterday.

When the hearing resumed yesterday afternoon, Camacho announced his ruling that granted Sablan's motion for judgment of acquittal.

Camacho said for Sablan to be guilty of operating a government leased vehicle without the necessary government license plate and government markings, and illegal tinting, the government must prove that that the car was leased to 12 months or more.

The judge found the testimony of government's witnesses Deets and Macaranas to be credible.

Camacho determined that

Macaranas' investigation was by the book and all possible information at the time of the traffic violator stop was done pursuant to police procedures.

Camacho said the failure of the government's case rest on the Office of the Attorney General.

The judge noted that between Jan. 15, 2015, and the arraignment of Feb. 12, 2015, the OAG received a copy of the lease agreement.

Camacho said a few minutes of review would have immediately shown that the white Honda with license plate AEC-621's lease agreement expired on Dec. 31, 2014.

In this case, Camacho said, the government incorrectly argues that three consecutive lease terms exceed the 12 months or more.

He said the facts are that each term of lease was exactly 12 months.

The judge said it is not one lease agreement totaling

three years.

Further, Camacho said, the government again incorrectly argues that since the last lease term expired on Dec. 31, 2014, the 15-day extension (Jan. 1, 2015 to Jan. 15, 2015) makes the lease more than 12 months.

"The lease was already expired," he noted.

Camacho said the existing lease at the time that Sablan was given a citation was a 15-day lease.

Camacho said the law requires leased government vehicles that are 12 months or more to display government license plates and markings and not be tinted.

He said a vehicle leased for 15 days by a government agency is not required to display government license plates and markings or removal of tinting on the windows.

Macaranas testified that in the morning of Jan. 15, 2015, Sablan was the driver of a white Honda Accord with license plate AEC-621.

Macaranas said he conducted the investigation when Sablan came from out from Twins Supermarket in Navy Hill and went to the driver's side of the car.

Macaranas said he approached Sablan, informed her of the violations and issued traffic citation to her.

Macaranas said the car was tinted dark black and that it had no PSS marking on either side.

Macaranas said the subject car had a standard license plate and didn't have a government license plate.

He said he went to Joeten Motors, where he spoke with a certain Josephine, who told him that the Honda Accord was leased to PSS and Sablan.

Macaranas said based on his interview, it was Joeten Motors who put the tint.

Macaranas disclosed that in October 2014, he also pulled over Sablan driving the same car after Office of the Public Auditor Melissa Bauleung informed him that the subject car operated by Sablan was in violation of the Government Vehicle Act. Macaranas said Sablan was on her way at that time to a PSS function at Aqua Resort Club so he let her go.

Macaranas said it's the car dealership that knows how long the lease is.

"I found out that Joeten Motors is the registered owner of the vehicle," he said.



Sablan

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## SUGAR TAX

From Page 1

to \$1.60 and that a can of iced coffee priced at \$1.25 would grow to \$2, while bill proponents cited examples of drops in tobacco use and profits after taxes were implemented, and noted that between 2011 and 2014, 756 deaths in the CNMI were attributed to non-communicable disease, with diabetes as one of leading causes of death.

It was 10 yes to eight no votes for HB 19-99. Voting yes were Reps. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), George Camacho (R-Saipan), Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), Glen Maratita (R-Rota), bill author Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan), Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan), John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), Francis Taimanao (Ind-Saipan), Blas Jonathan Attao (Ind-Saipan), and House Speaker Ralph Dempan (R-Saipan). Rep. Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Joseph Leepan Guerrero (R-Saipan), Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan), Vinnie Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Ramon Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), Edwin Aldan (Ind-Tinian), and Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) voted no.

Marcos W. Fong, CEO of Coca Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia), Inc., in written comments yesterday, said the current \$0.005 per fluid ounce tax on soft drinks already made it one of the heaviest taxed items in the CNMI, that the additional 4 cents tax would place an enormous burden on small business, and adds \$11.52 of taxes to a case of soda.

The Coca-Cola chief said independent studies showed that taxes do not result in behavioral change. He urged “more proven solutions to our public health concerns.”

Concerned citizen Glen Hunter urged a “no” vote on the bill and stressed, among other concerns, that he used to smoke, drink, and consume sugary drinks before, but the tax was “aggressive and abusive,” would raise prices by 100 to 300 percent, and that people should not be “punished” but make “true and holistic” choice to live healthier. As owner of the restaurant The Shack Saipan, he said that a \$138 syrup he purchases for coffee would jump to roughly \$700.

Tan Holdings vice president Alex Sablan gave examples of all costs associated with applying the tax to certain type of beverage items, syrups, and

powdered drinks. Sablan gave the example of a 72-ounce tub of Tang that sells about \$8.99 today, but would sell at \$37 after the tax is applied at 4 cents an ounce. Also a 5-gallon bag of syrup costs \$68 gallons today and generates 3,074 ounces of beverage but would cost \$226 due to the tax, he added.

“So it’s going to impact businesses,” he told *Saipan Tribune*. “It’s going to impact it from the standpoint that they are going to have to pass it along....It’s not only to be passed along to the realm of the beverage itself but it’s going to be passed along to all the food items. And so the cost of doing business is going to rise, and the cost to purchase these goods is going to rise.”

“...People are going to lose jobs, if a large portion of these taxes gets applied to wholesalers, distributors, restaurateurs, bars, because people are not going to consume these products at a greater degree than they are today because they are so excessively taxed,” he added.”

“You can choose today to pass the tax or don’t pass the tax,” concerned citizen Tiberius Mocanu told lawmakers. You can hope that education happens at some point in the future by not passing this bill. But what’s sneakily there is that while we’re not educating any-

one and while we’re not taking one step forward, Nestle, Coca-Cola, Nabisco, they are educating all of us. Every day.

“Who is educating our children right now?” Mocanu added. “Who is educating us right now? Those corporations. When we say we don’t want to be a nanny state, we don’t want to take choice away, we want to fund this bill and educate the Public School System, we are handing our responsibility to the community to those that have no responsibility to us. They have a responsibility to their shareholders. And they have a responsibility to their bottom line. That’s who you are yielding to in essence.”

Patty Coleman, Nutrition and Health Program leader from Northern Marianas College-CREES, said that the Institute of Medicine, American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association, Mayo Clinic, the Harvard School of Public Health, and several other organizations concerned with public health have recommended taxing SSBs as a means to reduce consumption.

“The sugar-sweetened beverage industry has done a good job of marketing their products in the CNMI and making us believe that we need to have sugar-sweetened

beverages at parties and events and that we should consume their products daily,” Coleman said. “They have had the lay of the land for decades at the cost of the health of the CNMI.”

Public health planner of the Division of Public Health’s non-communicable disease bureau, Kaitlyn Neises, acknowledged that the tax could be seen as a “regressive” tax but only for unhealthy consumption of unnecessary and harmful products that don’t “deserve a place in our stores and dinner tables. “This tax becomes a progressive measure when healthier alternatives are chosen because we know that chronic conditions have an impoverishing effect in the long run,” she said.

Marpac’s Ray Alvarez said he works for his company but to provide for his family, and at the end of the day, the net amount in his account is what he uses to pay for food and beverages.

“Four cents an ounce is extremely excessive to anyone who thinks about it,” he said, saying that the community

would be paying “taxes on taxes” with excise and gross sales taxes to go along with it.

Rep. Blas Jonathan Attao, who supported and voted for the bill, apologized for failing to address a “transition” or “grace” period as part of the bill that he feared without would lead to businesses jacking up prices to “test” the effects of sugar tax even before it’s put into effect after the 30-day window given if Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed it into law. He suggested that perhaps the Senate could recall the bill and include this transition period into law.

Rep. Ed Propst stressed the soul-searching, research, and struggling the bill forced upon and acknowledge compelling arguments on both sides. He threw concern to the amount of empty sugar drinks that young people “downed” and that lawmakers eventually pick up at their cleanups and noted that \$12 million a year was going to treatment for dialysis patients, adding that

**See SUGAR TAX on Page 5**

## POLICE

From Page 1

vestigation is ongoing, sources said.

*Saipan Tribune* opted to withhold the names of the DOC officers until formal charges are filed against them.

Sources said DPS had already completed the investigation and forwarded the matter to the Office of the Attorney General.

Sources said the two DOC

officers allegedly applied “excessive force” when Cavalear asked for medication for pain and kept on shouting.

After a confrontation, the two DOC officers allegedly beat up Cavalear inside his cell at the pod 2 area.

DPS conducted the investigation after Cavalear told another DOC officer to call the police for him.

Cavalear claimed that the officers choked him and put him in a headlock.

Cavalear alleged that one of

the two officers slammed his weight on his back. The officers also allegedly slapped him.

Cavalear was arrested last March 10 for allegedly using a forged check to buy grocery items at Jin Li Store in Dandan.

The Office of the Attorney General charged him with theft and forgery.

Last March 23, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman slapped Cavalear with five months imprisonment for pleading guilty to theft.

Cavalear was given credit of 12 days for time served. His sentence was consecutive to the prison term in his 2014 case conviction.

In December 2014, Cavalear was arrested after he allegedly pushed a female employee of New Chang Ming Store in Garapan for trying to stop him from stealing 12 cans of beer that he placed in the bottom compartment of a baby stroller.

Court records indicated “unknown” Cavalear’s nationality.

## PROSECUTOR

From Page 2

that the girl was a minor and was then only 15 years old.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho continued the preliminary hearing to May 9, 2016 at 1:30pm after an issue arose regarding affirmative defense.

Camacho ordered the prosecution and the defense counsel to submit briefs on the affirmative defense issue.

The issue was that “in a prosecution under 6 CMC 1303-1309, whenever a provision of law defining an offense depends upon a victim being under a certain age, it is an affirmative defense that, at

the time of the alleged offense, the defendant reasonably believed the victim to be that age or older, unless the victim was under 13 years of age at the time of the alleged offense.”

OAG charged Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion each with one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, two counts of misconduct in public office, and two counts of conspiracy to commit sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

Attorney Matthew J. Holley of Torres Brothers law firm is counsel for Deleon Guerrero, while attorney Richard Pierce is counsel for Concepcion.

The defendants are both under house arrest after posting \$15,000 and \$10,000 cash bail plus property, respectively.

## BSI

From Page 1

lion a year for the casino commission’s salary, \$4.4 million for permits and development fees, \$1.7 million on excise taxes, have given \$10 million to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and had other contributions as they buy lands, homes, and brought in yachts.

Aside from these, Brown said they are paying a 5 percent business gross revenue tax on all their revenues including the gaming tables.

As of April 30, Brown said they have paid \$14 million in BGRT, averaging \$3 million to \$4 million a month.

### No to adding casino or gaming tax

For this reason, and adding the detail that they will be paying about \$38 million a year once they operate and

have two buildings, Brown said they are not okay should there be a casino or gaming tax on top of all their other fees and taxes.

“Who actually wants to pay more tax?” Brown said, “We don’t want to pay more tax.”

“Why would we want to pay a \$40 million a year fee... it’s almost \$40 million that we’re going to be paying, and then we’re paying the 5 percent BGRT,” he added.

“So you’re saying, would you be okay with a gaming tax on top of the 5 percent BGRT on top of the \$40 million that you pay every year? The answer would be no, of course not, we wouldn’t be happy with that,” Brown said.

Asked if they would comply should a casino tax be implemented, Brown said “no” because that is stated in their exclusive casino license.

“No, we won’t comply with that. Our license agree-

ment says no gaming tax,” Brown said.

“That was the agreement coming in. You pay this \$15 million fee, you pay this \$20 million fee, you pay the commission’s salary, and there’ll be no gaming tax. Even though you’re still paying BGRT,” she added.

Brown, who had been in the casino industry in various countries, said other casino jurisdictions don’t require to pay \$40 million every year to operate a casino.

“There’s no \$40 million fee that they pay every year, that’s the difference. New Jersey, you’ll pay a 9 percent tax, but no one is paying \$40 million fee a year to be there, that’s the difference,” Brown said.

Brown said it should be “one or the other” but not both, adding that they will pay casino taxes should “the \$40 million a year went away.”

“But that’s not what they’re

thinking. They’re thinking on top of the \$40 million. That doesn’t make sense. No other jurisdiction does both. You don’t have \$40 million fee and pay a gaming tax,” Brown said.

“I’d rather have a 9 percent and no fee, than a 5 percent and a \$40 million fee,” he added.

### Gaming tax in the future

Previous media interviews with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, however, said that the government “do need to tax gaming but perhaps right now is not the right time.”

“There are no ifs or buts, we will tax them. But we need them to start the investment now before we start taxing them,” Torres said, referring to casino or gaming tax.

“Wherever you go, in regards the casino, you start them with zero interest and then you build that revenue in.

You start that investment and then eventually you tax them,” he added.

However, asked when the right time will be to implement a casino or gaming tax, Torres did not give a direct answer.

“Whenever you look at tax, you got to look at what the investment is and what is the projected revenue to bring back their investment. That is the time when we will discuss do we increase it now? Do we propose 1 percent, 5 percent, 10 percent?” Torres said.

“Eventually, we all know it’s going up to 20 to 30 percent. As to know what point [that is], we got to monitor that,” he added.

Torres mentioned that is what happened in Las Vegas and Macau, before they start taxing 40 years ago and that there is certain growth of the tax.

Torres also recognized BSI’s contributions to the CNMI with their current taxes and investments.

“Don’t forget that for the investment here. We don’t waive the excise tax. They pay excise tax. They are not qualified for a qualifying certificate. Rota and Tinian, on the other hand, they have the qualifying certificates that can apply. If you look at those numbers you can benefit up to \$500 million or \$600 million dollars,” Torres said.

“So although there are zero taxes for gaming, you see them grow this economy from land, housing, employment, higher salaries, number of employees being hired, and the indirect cost with everyone else, with all the other businesses you’ve seen them with the effect they are coming in with the revenue,” he added. **(With reports from Dennis Chan)**



## May busy month for LibDay candidates

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The 29 candidates for the 2016 Miss CNMI Liberation Day Royal Court will have the month of May fully booked with activities as they continue their preparation for the July 1 coronation night. Five crowns, including the Royal Queen, are at stake in the competition.

Liberation Day Royal Court chair Rose Hocog said they are asking the Marianas Visitors Authority if they could get a tent set up in the four Saturdays of the Taste of the Marianas to sell tickets. The candidates also sold tickets in the 35th Flame Tree Arts Festival.

Hocog, in yesterday's Liberation Day committee meeting held at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room, said that despite their trip to Rota being cancelled the candidates will be involved in Saturday's American Red Cross Walkathon and the Agricultural Fair in June.

"Of course, these are separate from their continued training next month. May will be a crazy month for the candidates that's why we're going to ask [acting Northern Marianas College president] Dave Attao if we could use one of their classrooms for training."

"We are also going to reach out to Guam if we can get a discount on our planned trip there and also if they could provide transportation to take the candidates around," she added.

Hocog said most of the candidates, especially those who are graduating this year, have been busy with schoolwork for the finals with high school seniors also preparing for the prom. May will be NMC's graduation month while June 1 for high schools.

She said that she would also schedule a meeting with the parents and guardians of the candidates in early May.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang said that they are also planning to have the 29 candidates perform as part of the entertainment program of the Liberation Day carnival.

"This is a record number of candidates. As much as possible we want to have them enjoy their experience of being a candidate. We will treat them well and will make sure they will cherish their experience," Apatang said.

Anbeata C. Maratita, Beda G. Mundo, Byanna Marie B. Lizama, Catherine A. Reyes, Cathy K. Amandus, Christine Roque, Christylynn Hope M. Del Rosario, Cornessa M.

Dela Cruz, Coryn A. Achas, Dora E. Rabauliman, Jamila P. Alegre, Jasmine R. Umbay, Jennifer R. Camacho, Jerika Jersica P. Sekool, Karee Lu Matagolai, Kaylanie Santos, Lordina Gineanne H. Pangelinan, Lucy Mira M. Saito, Makaly R. Smith, Malena Hofschneider, Mardee-Ann M. Hermosilla, Mercilia Jesnett V. Teigita, Nelly Rose E. Saturno, Nikela T. Masayos, Norlyn P. Elayda, Shanthia Nicole Espinosa, Sheela Marie K. Saraff, Malia Fatima T. Passi and Wendy A. Nicholas are the Liberation Day Royal Court candidates.

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## SUGAR TAX

From Page 4

education was a good start but "we must do more."

However, Propst, who eventually voted against the bill, recalled advice he'd gotten when he first became a lawmaker to "do no harm" or more good than harm.

Rep. Antonio Sablan challenged health officials present for tangible results if the bill was passed, casting some doubt on how taxing sugar would affect the myriad of factors that play into disease in the Commonwealth. "I am the chair of the ways and means [committee], I should love this bill" for its projected \$6 million in tax revenue, "but I just question... why 4 cents [tax?]. Why don't we make it \$5 an ounce and get it out of our community?" Sablan voted for the bill.

Rep. Ralph Yumul voted no the first time the bill passed the House and voted no again, saying that "with a family that has businesses, I know how it is to pass the cost to consumers" which they would not want to do after a disaster like Typhoon Soudelor.

Rep. Joseph Leepan Guerrero voted yes the first time the bill passed the House but voted no yesterday, citing, among others, concern that costs would be passed unto to public school lunches and doubts of any tangible health impacts.

"It will never go away. Sodas... will remain here," he said.

Rep. Angel Demapan stressed that there was a "sunset" provision to the bill that would allow them to evaluate the success and merits of the funded health programs of the bill, and said that the government had made a commitment in years past to support the fight against non-communicable disease.

"We can always say its the wrong place and wrong time to start. What's not debatable is that we have to start," he said. "If you want to access [sugary drinks], it comes with a price... Who pays for it? When population make unhealthy choices... we pay for it," he said, adding that at the young age of 33 he has already lost his parents to non-communicable diseases and would choose "people, over profit."

Dr. Don Hardt, optometrist at the Hardt Eye Clinic, brought a bag of "health" drinks to the microphone, unloading each one of them unto the podium. He said he had an experiment the day before picking up random drinks that looked healthy. "This is all junk," he said. "Our people don't have the [training] I have" and "have no chance," he said, citing national health guidelines that say women need six tablespoons of sugar per day, men need nine per day, but that the sample drinks excessively surpassed this quota.

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# 'Empowering women is empowering all of us'

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON  
frauleine\_villanueva@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Empowering women to take better care of themselves as they take care of others is among the messages sent to the women in the CNMI as the kick-off celebration for this year's Women's Health Month was marked with a proclamation signing at the Fiesta Resort and Spa yesterday.

Gathering for the start of the month-long celebration are women especially, those in the child-bearing age, as well as community partners and providers, Cabinet members, lawmakers, and government officials.

"Women need to take the time for themselves. Take the 'me time' you've got to really take care of yourselves," Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muna said.

Muna said while women are used to taking care of others, it is important that they ensure their health as well.



A free health screening, including a blood sugar test, was conducted at the kick-off celebration of the Women's Health Month at the Fiesta Resort and Spa yesterday. The theme of this year's event is "Empowering Women Together: Power to Her."

"We provide, for this month particularly, free screening. You need to be able to see your doctor; you need to be

able to do self breast exams. You have to take care of yourself," Muna said.

In her inspirational speech,

CHCC-OBGYN Department chair Dr. Jeanolivia Grant said that to empower women is to empower others as well.

"Empowering women means empowering men to stand beside us as partners in improving the lives of our children and of our families. And if we, men and women, work together, we can return power to her, changing the lives of all of us for the better," Grant said.

"When all is said and done, empowering women means empowering all of us," she added.

For Grant, among the ways to improve women's health is to provide parity.

"The biggest thing that equalizes health is income. If we make sure that women get the education they need and we make sure there's equity and pay, women can do what they need to do. They just need the opportunity and that's the biggest thing, to take care of diseases and to take care of the other things," Grant said.

"We talk about empowering their health, but making changes in their economic conditions and in their living situa-

tions in the communities where they are, actually changes their health and empowering them to be healthier. It's not just about going to the doctor, it's much broader than that," she added.

Notwithstanding, access to health services are still important, and according to Grant, CHCC has been doing everything that it can to help women get the care that they need.

With various grants being awarded to the Division of Public Health and the hospital, as well as hospital sliding fees, Grant said, "Even if you don't have insurance, there are means to get you the health care you need."

"Sliding fee is the program that our CEO Esther Muna set in place to allow those without insurance to come in and be seen at a price they can afford or no charge," she added.

Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog signed the proclamation and while echoing the need to empower the women, called also on the women to support their men.

He also recognized the power of the women, citing as an example, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' absence to attend to and take care of his wife, Lady Diann, who recently gave birth to their child.

At the event, providers such as the nursing students from the Northern Marianas College were present to provide free health screening. Exhibits from partners such as Marianas Health Service and Hardt Eye Clinic were also present.

"These are the partners that we work with daily or monthly," Maternal and Child Health Bureau administrator TaAnn Kabua said.

On behalf of *Hyatt Regency*® Saipan, we would like to thank all the event partners, sponsors, golf players and volunteer associates for their dedication, generosity and enthusiasm. Their support will grant wishes for our Make-A-Wish® Foundation recipients and open new opportunities for the Northern Marianas Trades Institute (NMTI). When we take care of our community with shared commitment and partnerships, goals are met and community relationships are forged. The impact we made together for the past twenty years, and the impact we again made this year could not have been possible without your continued involvement and dedication. And, for this, I personally extend my sincerest gratitude.

— *Hyatt Regency*® Saipan General Manager Nick K. Nishikawa

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ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., : CIVIL ACTION  
: NO. 09-0345

Plaintiff, : SUMMONS FOR  
: PUBLICATION

-v-

CHARLOTTE S. VILLAGOMEZ :  
Defendant. :

### TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filling your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

DATED, this 12<sup>th</sup> day April, 2016 by order of the Court:

/s/ Clerk of Court



# Early Childhood Month celebration last Saturday

A special program last Saturday marked the end of the celebration of the Service Provider's Week by the CNMI Child-care Provider Association. The event took place at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center in Susupe.

Pre-school and elementary students from different daycare, and early childhood and primary schools on Saipan participated in the event. They performed dance numbers and recited poems and bible verses.

ems and bible verses.

Acting Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter was the guest speaker,

Green Meadows School and Pure Love Daycare, Smart Start, Loving Hands, Angel Kindergarten, Northern Marianas International School, Golden Harvest International School, R&Q Daycare, Mom's Daycare Learning Center, Holy Angel Daycare,

Gana Daycare, Gospel Light Daycare, CWM Trust Daycare, and Keynotes School of Music participated.

CNMI-CPA president Milagros M. Songcuan said the weeklong celebration aims to further promote public awareness "on the needs of the young children and their families."

Songcuan added that recognizing the early childhood programs and services that

meet the needs is also part of the commemoration.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children organizes the Week of the Young Child's annual celebration. NAEYC is the world's largest early childhood education association with close to 80,000 members and a network of over 300 local, state, and regional affiliates.

The first Week of the Young Child celebration was first held in 1971 after NAEYC officials back then believed that

laying the foundation for the success of a child is from birth to 8 years old.

"The week of the young child is a time to plan how we, as citizens of the community and a nation, will better meet the needs of all young children and their families," said Songcuan, who is also the president of GMS.

Lina Villagomez, vice president; Dhez Javier, secretary; and Kim Mi Ae, treasurer are the other CNMI-CPA officers. *(Jon Perez)*

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Happy birthday Dad from Mom and Boboy!



## NEW H2O METERS

Over 2,000 new water meters arrived for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. as they continue with their meter change out program expected to be completed in five weeks. In the photo are Water Division operations supervisor Bernard Kermius, technician Elizabeth Blas, and water meter supervisor Glenn Dikito.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

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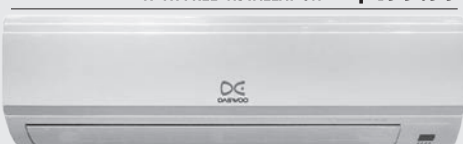
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By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The 250-strong CNMI delegation is excited and ready to join its Pacific neighbors in celebrating the culture and lifestyle of islanders in next month’s 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts to be held at

the Paseo de Susana Park in Hagatna, Guam. CNMI head of delegation John Oliver Gonzales said they capitalized on the proximity of the host nation and asked the organizers to allow the CNMI to go beyond the 100-person limit allotted for each country.


# NMI FestPac delegation excited for event

CNMI delegates will be among the more than 3,000 delegates attending the quadrennial event set from May 22 to June 4. The Festival of the Pacific Arts or Pacific Arts Festival is a quadrennial


event hosted by a different country alternating within Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. “The entire blue continent will converge in Guam to celebrate island culture. It is time for us Micronesians to showcase our culture and at the same time reconnect with our ancestors,” said Gonzales. “It is not only a celebration for Micronesia but for Oceania as a whole. It is our time to share the spirit of goodwill and camaraderie to our brothers and sisters in the Pacific Islands,” added Gonzales. He said the CNMI delegation would take the less than an hour travel down south separately on May 17, 18, and 19. Most of the delegates performed in the recently concluded 35th Flame Tree Arts Festival last week. “But there are those who are

living and working in Guam. They would also join us there. The entire CNMI delegation will be in Guam a couple of days before the May 22 opening and Parade of Nations,” said Gonzales. He added that the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative delegation held a meeting to appropriate money to help fund their trip. The Marianas Visitors Authority and T Galleria also helped the CNMI delegation to the Pacific Arts Festival. Delegates also had their own fundraising activities. They needed to raise \$200 to pay the \$50 registration fee and the rest for pocket money. The Hawaii-Polynesia region will be hosting the 2020 edition of the event considered as the Olympics of culture and the arts in the Pacific. The Secretariat of the Pacific Community will hold a meeting to

decide which country from Melanesia will host the 2024 FestPac. Gonzales said hosting rights will return to Micronesia in 2028 and choosing the next host country is done eight years before the event. “It needs a lot of preparation. The organizers need to plan on how to find different funding sources.” American Samoa, Australia, the Cook Islands, Easter Island, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, the State of Hawaii, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Norfolk Island, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna are the Pacific Island countries and territories that are expected to join the festival.



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**Office of the Secretary of Public Works**  
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BIDS

### DPW-16-IFB-010

#### Supply, Delivery and Installation of Playground Equipment

Governor Ralph Dlg, Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Supply, Delivery and Installation of Playground Equipment, Tanapag Children's Park**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **April 28, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **May 16, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Project Site, located at Tanapag Children's Park, Tanapag, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 18, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-010"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 03, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid, Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 03, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 03, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **June 13, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, June 15, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, June 03, 2016**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Gov't Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ **PETER P. CAMACHO**  
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**  
Director of Procurement & Supply



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## Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Board Conference Room 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg (Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: [www.zoning.gov.mp](http://www.zoning.gov.mp))

**A. Preliminary Matters**

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of 04/28/16 meeting minutes
- Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

**B. Public Hearings**

**Conditional Use Application #2016-1487:** Armatech Corp is proposing to operate a shop for motor rewinding services. This use is classified as "Gas Station, Light Repair" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on Lots 013 H 13 and 013 H 12, along Beach Road in Chalan Kanoa. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

**Rezone Application #2016-1268 (Change of Zoning District):** Saipan Adventure Tours is requesting to rezone Lot 10 G 18 in Kagman from "Village Residential" to "Public Resource" zoning district to operate a skydiving landing area with community related activities such as baseball or soccer. This lot is located at the back of the Kagman Komunitad Center, along Kagman Road.

**C. Communications**

**D. Old Business**

**E. New Business**

**F. Executive (Closed) Session**

**G. Miscellaneous:** Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogunoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ *Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman*



# Betel nut intervention trial study to be conducted in CNMI, Guam

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON  
frauline\_villanueva@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A betel nut intervention trial study will be tested in the CNMI and Guam this year as part of a continuing study on the use of the betel nut and how to promote cessation.

University of Guam professor Dr. Yvette Paulino, PhD sought the public's cooperation and support for the study that they hope to conduct before summer.

"This is the first time we're doing this," Paulino said. "Our intervention here will be modeling the tobacco intervention. So it's a group-based cessation type of program so it's a group-oriented approach to trying to quit."

Paulino said meetings or sessions will occur over a period of five to six weeks and then follow-up sessions will be done after another six months. The study will run for three years.

Paulino said those who would want to be part of the intervention program must be at least 18 years old, however, participants will be chosen randomly if they will be under the full intervention or the partial, control program.

Over 300 participants will be sought from CNMI and Guam.

"It may be a challenge because people may not want to quit but I think the more they know about the effects of betel nut chewing especially those who want to quit chewing but don't have the resource and maybe not know about it, we hope the community help us in spreading the awareness," Paulino said.

The study aims to test



University of Guam professor Dr. Yvette Paulino, PhD, fourth from left, sought the public's cooperation and support for a betel nut intervention trial study that will be tested in the CNMI and Guam this year as part of a continuing study on the use of the betel nut and how to promote cessation.

the efficacy of the intensive group-based program among those who are willing to attempt to quit chewing and to quantitatively determine the efficacy of the group-based intervention trial using bio-verification.

A feasibility study on the betel nut cessation program was conducted in 2014 and was "well-received and yielded surprisingly high rates of self-reported betel nut cessation."

Prior to this current study, Paulino completed a study conducted in 2010 to 2013 entitled "Development of protocols for studying oral precancerous lesions and other health risks among betel nut users in Micronesia."

The study identified two classes of betel nut chewers based on seven betel nut behaviors, smoking and alcohol use.

Class 1 chewers are predominantly from Guam who chew mature, red betel nut. Most add leaf, few add lime and tobacco

and most swallow. A 3.8 percent of them have been found to have oral predominantly malignant disorders.

Class 2 chewers, on the other hand, are predominantly those from Saipan who chew young betel nut both red and white. Most add lead, lime, and tobacco, but few swallow. They found that 19.4 percent had OPMD.

As those who chew betel nut on Saipan, according to her study, are class 2 chewers, they are significantly at risk of having OPMD than those in Guam.

Paulino said she decided

to do the study as Micronesia is largely unrepresented in reports about betel nut behaviors.

Both studies were funded by the National Cancer Institute under the National Institutes of Health.

Paulino's visit last Friday was part of the Commonwealth Cancer Association's Oral Cancer Awareness program for this month.

For more information on the studies and those interested to take part may call the CCA office at 682-0050 or email at [camarianas@gmail.com](mailto:camarianas@gmail.com).

## WHAT TO DO IF A WILDFIRE APPROACHES

- 1 Call for help - 911 or 664-9003/4**
- 2 Close all entrances, windows and other openings.** Close shutters, heavy drapes, blinds and any other window coverings. This action is recommended to prevent sparks from blowing inside your house and igniting there.
- 3 Dress to protect yourself.** Wear cotton clothing including long pants, long sleeve shirt, gloves and a handkerchief to protect your face.
- 4 Have tools and water accessible.** Have a ladder, shovel, rake, and long water hose available. Fill buckets and other bulk containers with water.
- 5 Wet down the roof.** If your roof can burn, wet it down with a hose.
- 6 Prepare your vehicles.** Back as many vehicles as possible into the garage, then close the door. In the event you evacuate, close the garage door behind you as you leave. If you don't have a garage or its full, park vehicles so they are heading in the direction of the evacuation route.
- 7 Evacuate the family.** If evacuation becomes necessary, take your family and pets to a safe location.



## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for  
**Armatech Corp.**

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Armatech Corp. is proposing to operate a shop for motor rewinding services. This use is classified as "Gas Station, Light Repair" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on Lots 013 H 13 and 013 H 12, along Beach Road in Chalan Kanoa. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

**Date:** May 12th, 2016, Thursday  
**Time:** 5:00 pm  
**Place:** Zoning Board Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Wednesday, May 11, 2016 or via email to [therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp](mailto:therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp), or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

## LANDSCAPING Be Lean, Clean and Green

**Lean** Prune shrubs and cut back tree branches. Large trees and shrubs should be pruned so that the lowest branches are at least 6-10 feet above the ground to prevent a fire spreading from the ground to the tree tops.

**Clean** Remove all dead plant material from around your home, including dead leaves and dry vegetation. Clear away flammable plants that contain oily resins and replant with fire-resistant plants. If you have firewood, stack it away from the house. Avoid using leaves for shade coverings.

**Green** Plant healthy fire-resistant vegetation. Ask a local landscaping specialist for suggestions.



[www.facebook.com/dfems.cnmi](http://www.facebook.com/dfems.cnmi)  
Station 1 Tekken Drive | P.O. Box 7068 SVRB Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone: 664-9003/4 (24hours)





# Opinion

## *Hafa Adai!* Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
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## EDITORIAL

### Navy's quest for more subs is a money drain

**A**s the U.S. Department of Defense goes in quest of a larger piece of the overall budget, its claims of threats to America's security grow in amplitude and volume.

Its latest ambitions are for 40 percent more submarines than it and some of the American media claim Russia has, as opposed to the 25 percent more the U.S. Navy has now. The other is a desire by the U.S. Africa Command for money to use larger numbers of U.S. forces to fight Boko Haram, a group of terrorists in northeastern Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger.

The claim is that these African states are U.S. allies. In reality they are African states that have the resources and should have sufficient motivation to fight off Boko Haram themselves. What occurs in that landlocked region of Africa is the responsibility of the people located there and poses no threat to the United States. They are countries; they are not U.S. allies, as even some U.S. media profess to believe. Cameroon has had the same president, Paul Biya, for 33 years; Chad's president, Idriss Deby, has been in office for 25 years. Niger is somewhat democratic. Nigeria, an oil state, is noted for corruption.

The United States doesn't need the new submarines. The Navy wants them because it feels it has not had a big enough role in recent wars (Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Syria, Yemen) to have put enough money into its pockets. Overstating the Russian threat, it hopes, will remedy that shortfall.

It is worth noting that the new ships — and the tanks, missile batteries, artillery and other hardware being sought by President Barack Obama for use in Eastern Europe against Russia — also represent important purchases from the U.S. defense industries, large donors to current political campaigns.

The budget will be in imbalance already, without the new military expenditures, and the U.S. national debt currently stands at \$19 trillion and rising steadily, with \$6 trillion — about a third — of it owed to China, Japan, Saudi Arabia and other foreign countries. Wouldn't it make more sense to reduce our financial vulnerability to them, as opposed to increasing our military exposure in Africa and buying more hardware that we don't need?

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### Cultural shift may be needed for our sleepy nation

**A**rianna Huffington thinks you need more sleep, and she's probably right.

We are a chronically underslept nation, carving out far too little time for it, and turning to prescriptions and pricey mattress emporiums when that time is largely spent tossing and turning.

With her new book, "The Sleep Revolution: Transforming Your Life One Night at a Time" (Harmony Books), Huffington hopes to change all that.

"A huge cultural shift is needed," she told me Monday. "Part of it has to be around workplaces, and the recognition that if you want productive, healthy employees, you can't expect them to be always on. But we all have our own decisions to make too, because we have more discretionary time than we acknowledge."

Americans hold too tightly to a "time is money" ideal, Huffington maintains, treating sleep as lost time, rather than a necessary period of neurological activity — renewal, memory consolidation, neurochemical cleansing and cognitive maintenance, for starters.

"Since the dawn of the Industrial Revolution," she writes, "we have treated (sleep) like some dull, distant relative we visit only reluctantly and out of obligation, for as short a time as we can manage."

Huffington, co-founder and editor-in-chief of the Huffington Post Media Group, rather famously collapsed from exhaustion in 2007, an experience she wrote about in her last book, "Thrive: The Third Metric to Redefining Success and Creating a Life of Well-Being, Wisdom and Wonder" (Harmony Books). She considers the collapse a wake-up call, and she hopes "The Sleep Revolution" will convince the rest of us to put a premium on sleep.

She makes a compelling case, citing the science that links sleep deprivation to increased risks for diabetes, heart attack, stroke, cancer, obesity, Alzheimer's disease and — as if that's not enough — a slow but steady decrease in productivity, creativity and the quality of our relationships and sex lives.

So what do we do about it?

The first step, Huffington writes, is to stop thinking of sleep as the item to sacrifice to accommodate our to-do lists. It's as important to our physical health as exercise, nutritious eating and wearing a seat belt, one sleep expert tells her.

But that's no small feat.

"Sleep deprivation now resides within a repertoire of practices deemed essential to survival in a globally competitive world," Penn State history professor Alan Derickson writes in "Dangerously Sleepy," which Huffington quotes. "Americans have a stronger ideological rationale than ever to distrust any sort of dormancy."

By **HEIDI STEVENS**

Chicago Tribune

Heidi Stevens is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune. Readers may email her at [hstevens@tribpub.com](mailto:hstevens@tribpub.com)



But we owe it to ourselves to push back against that distrust, Huffington writes. She urges the sleep-deprived masses to take an honest look at our discretionary time and consider whether we could pick up extra rest by giving up some screen time, whether that's Twitter surfing or "Game of Thrones" bingeing.

We should also establish a nightly bedtime ritual, she says, during which we train our mind to transition from the stress-filled day to the rest-filled night.

"Mine is turning off the devices to charge outside the bedroom, having a hot bath or shower and reading physical books," she said. "You may pick a different combination. But one thing that has to be non-negotiable is charging your phone outside the bedroom. We are addicted, and we have to recognize that addiction."

What about the iPhone as alarm clock? (A standby in our house.)

"I have a vintage-looking \$32 Pottery Barn alarm clock," Huffington said. "I love it."

"But when you begin to get enough sleep, you'll wake up without an alarm," she added. "It's such a great way to start the day, without immediately moving into fight-or-flight mode."

It sounds heavenly. It really does. It also sounds as if it requires more than cutting out screen time.

What if you could go back to the pre-collapse days, I asked Huffington. When you were launching a company and writing books and helping your daughter select a college — what would you cut out in favor of more sleep?

"I remember all the nights I would try to write an article or work on HuffPo late into the night, and I would eat to power through because my body was craving sleep," she said. "I would be on a book tour, and I'd be in a city with good friends, so the night before an early morning TV gig I would go out to dinner with them, not get enough sleep and drag myself through the day."

"I don't do that anymore," she said. "I had an early (commitment) in Washington today. I got in last night and ordered room service and went to bed. Some of it sounds like a sacrifice, but I can assure you it's not. I'm now enjoying everything I'm doing, showing up fully present and loving my day instead of not loving my day."



# Lack of political will strains space program

By **ROBERT WEINER, LILE FU and BEN LASKY**  
ORLANDO SENTINEL

Last week, China announced that it plans to land a rover on Mars by 2020. The Russian Federal Space Agency is working with the European Space Agency. Every major power in the world has some form of interest in Mars. Like 1961, when Russia first rocketed Yuri Gagarin into orbit and the U.S. was afraid that Russians would beat us with the first actual man on the Moon, the race is on.

The U.S. should again set its priorities to one day be able to claim that it first stepped foot on the Red Planet. Unfortunately, we're not doing this.

When Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the moon on July 20, 1969, Americans dreamed of the possibilities in spaceflight. We were certain that in the not-too-distant future, an astronaut would land on Mars. However, 47 years after the moon landing, the U.S. is no closer to that goal.

The U.S. still has its eyes on Mars — at least that's what the government leads us to believe. Astronaut Scott Kelly was back

on Earth after spending 340 days in space on March 2. His year in space was part of a NASA study involving both him and his twin brother, Mark, a former astronaut, on space travel and the human body in space versus on Earth. This was in preparation for a theoretical Mars mission.

The problem is, there has been no mission to Mars. For nearly 50 years and counting since we landed on the moon, there has been a manned mission-to-orbit circling 200 to 300 miles above us, and an unmanned mission to other planets.

Mark Kelly and Col. Terry Virts, a former Air Force pilot, attended a "breakfast from space" presentation in person on the mission to Mars at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 15. Mark's brother, Scott, also spoke at the event, live from the International Space Station.

There is a "lack of political will" to generate public support for funding, according to Kelly and Virts. We have spent countless trillions of dollars on failed wars with wasted results, but we have spent nowhere near what we need to accomplish manned science in other parts of our universe. This could have amazing givebacks in resources and knowledge.

## Cruz, Kasich teaming up? What a joke

You thought the Republican presidential primary race couldn't get any more nauseating. You thought wrong.

The latest bit of dreck being tossed at the public is the Ted Cruz-John Kasich tag team match to keep Donald Trump from getting enough delegates to win the nomination on the first ballot.

Listen, Trump is a fraud and totally unqualified to be president, but he's right about this — it's a joke.

Ted Cruz may be even more dangerous than Trump. He's a religious fanatic and he's totally despised by his colleagues in the Senate.

And his whole spiel — his entire campaign — is based on the fact he's not Trump.

Yes, says Cruz, vote for me because Trump sucks. Yeah, that's a guy you want to lead the country.

As for Kasich, he's a nice guy, And a total cipher as a

BY **GARY STEIN**  
Sun Sentinel

Gary Stein is a columnist for the Sun Sentinel. Readers may email him at [gstein@sunsentinel.com](mailto:gstein@sunsentinel.com)



candidate.

He won his home state of Ohio, hasn't been close anywhere else, and again, he says he's not Trump.

If these guys want the nomination — and hope to win a contested convention — let them win because they have something to offer the country.

They shouldn't win anything just because they think they can stop Trump.

They think they can accomplish what they want by each concentrating on different states.

But neither has anything to offer.

And the GOP joke campaign continues.

## Cruz-Kasich pact against Trump is fair fight

Here are three things to know about the non-aggression pact between Ted Cruz and John Kasich, who have now vowed to work together to defeat Donald Trump for the Republican presidential nomination. Kasich will cede the opposition to Trump in Indiana to Cruz, while Cruz will give Kasich a chance to win in New Mexico and Oregon.

■ Even though this deal is unlikely to change the eventual allocation of delegates by much, a small swing could have a huge effect. As noted by NBC's Mark Murray, at least one poll shows that if Kasich is removed from the Indiana competition, Trump's lead of 8 percentage points drops to 2 points ahead of Cruz. Indiana has some statewide winner-take-all delegates and some delegates who are winner-take-all by congressional district, so finishing first (statewide and in congressional districts) is what matters, not the margin of victory.

In the primaries that remain, Indiana is second in importance only to California when measured by the number of delegates up for grabs, according to current polling. Anti-Trump forces have to stop him in those two states to have any hope of preventing him from reaching 1,237 bound delegates — the number needed for the nomination. Indiana votes on May 3; California's election is June 7, the last day of the primaries.

■ No one should be shocked when politicians act strategically. What has been surprising about the Kasich campaign so far is that he hasn't appeared to be acting as a strategic politician. He skipped the Iowa caucuses, for example, never a successful decision for any presidential candidate, and has emphasized his moderate credentials instead of positioning himself as a mainstream conservative. He has run hard in primaries where he had no chance, even in states (such as Utah) where the delegate rules meant that votes for him would throw more delegates to Trump, making Kasich's goal — an open convention — more difficult to reach. Most perplexing of all, he has remained an active candidate despite having no chance to win ever since his disappointing distant second-place finish in New Hampshire.

If the Ohio governor acts to boost the anti-Trump camp, it's

still hard to see any possibility that he will be nominated, but if he cares about the opinion of his party's actors going forward, he'll work hard to deny Trump the nomination.

■ As for Trump's continuing whine about the unfairness of it all: No, the system isn't rigged against him. Of course, candidates whom the party likes have advantages in winning party nominations. It isn't unfair to Trump that the other candidates are trying to do the best they can under the well-established rules.

The two fundamental problems for Donald Trump are that Republican Party actors don't trust him to be a strong general-election candidate, or to be loyal to the party if he were to become president. Indeed, right now, Trump's polling numbers point to disaster for Republicans in November.

Unless Trump manages to change those numbers, and the

"Space is just a blip on the political radar," writes Keith Cowing, a former NASA employee and the editor of NASA Watch. NASA's budget is less than half a percent of total federal spending, which hit \$3.7 trillion in the 2015 budget year. NASA's budget has stayed at less than 1 percent of the federal budget for more than 30 years after reaching its peak of almost 4 percent under President Richard Nixon, when we stepped on the moon.

NASA advocates have tried. However, the Constellation human-spaceflight program was first removed from the 2010 NASA budget request, and has disappeared since, even though President Barack Obama predicted a U.S.-crewed orbital Mars mission by the mid-2030s, preceded by an asteroid mission by 2025. Liberals typically block space programs to better spend money "at home."

According to Virts, technology has a lot of promise in a journey to Mars. He also said that based on the progress between 1961 and 1969, from Earth orbit to manned lunar landing on Mars is not far-fetched. But it can be done only with a green light from Congress and the White House.

"We must think of (space activities) as part of a continuing process and not a series of separate leaps," Nixon stated on March 7, 1970.

Subsequent presidents put Mars exploration into their presidential calendars — and then ignored the funding.

The central question inspiring Earthbound humans remains: Is there, or was there ever, life elsewhere in the solar system? Earth is the only planet that possesses life that we know. But that does not pass our common-sense test, which is why millions either did see UFOs or believe they did. Whether life is possible on another planet attracts scientists and everyone else.

And then there is commercialization. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich ran for president and called for space colonization. Maybe that's not the best reason to go there.

Neil Armstrong famously declared that his landing was, "One small step for (a) man, one giant leap for mankind." That joy of pure science and exploration is a great hope. However, since those first steps, the U.S. has barely crawled toward anywhere else.

Robert Weiner is a former spokesman for the Clinton White House and House Government Operations Committee. Lile Fu of Beijing, China, is policy analyst at Solutions for Change. Ben Lasky is senior policy analyst at Solutions for Change. They wrote this for the Orlando Sentinel.

By **JONATHAN BERNSTEIN**  
Bloomberg View

Jonathan Bernstein is a Bloomberg View columnist. Readers may send him email at [jbernstein62@bloomberg.net](mailto:jbernstein62@bloomberg.net).



perception that he would be an unreliable ally in the Oval Office if he somehow managed to win, his opponents are going to try to find ways to block him. Complaining about the unfairness of having to face opposition and play by the established rules may appeal to swing voters in the remaining Republican primaries, but it's not going to erase the challenges he faces.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Really, really?

Are people of the CNMI that stupid that they don't realize that James Deleon Guerrero and officer Conception had sex with a minor knowing she was underage? They knew what they were doing!

Are people of the CNMI really that stupid they don't realize that? Deleon Guerrero is married. He was the police chief. He knew what he was doing....hello! Conception delivered the underage girl to the party! Wahoo!

The CNMI government is corrupt on every level! Change yourself CNMI! I am ashamed of you again!

The only thing that can change it are "good citizens." Are there any left on that island? Or is it just a place where ignorance let's sexual atrocities and destroying of innocence in a young girls youth allowed to run free and unchecked because it is not really the United States?

I am from Texas. Here you get a minimum 20 years in jail for something like that. In the CNMI you get off. The CNMI is not the real United States. In Texas those two would not make it to jail!

In the CNMI it's OK to molest underage little girls! The CNMI society approves of that!

In the CNMI it is OK to molest a little girl because Deleon Guerrero and Conception have lived on the island all their lives and have a sleazy, cheap legal way out?

Wake up CNMI! These people are destroying the last of what is good about you! They rape and kill what is good about the CNMI and you, as the people there let them!

Put these guys in jail forever!

You have a choice. Are you, as people on a small island in the Pacific that calls itself the United States that stupid and ignorant as to not prosecute them to the fullest extent of the United States law?

I'm just saying. This is an atrocity! Wake up CNMI!

Protect yourself! Stop doing this to yourself!


**Christopher Jones**  
Former NMC psychology professor



# The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼76°


FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼76°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼76°


SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼76°


MONDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼76°

Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough runs southeastward from 7N130E to EQ140E. Low-level convergence along the north side of the trough is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near and northwest of Koror within 70 miles of a line from 10N130E to 7N135E and southeast of Koror within 100 miles of a line from 5N136E to 4N141E and southeast of Yap within 50 miles of a line from 9N140N to 7N144E. A trade-wind trough just southeast of Chuuk is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 7N and 3N from 152E to 155E. Another trade-wind trough north of Pohnpei is triggering scattered showers within 50 miles of a line from 16N156E to 13N159E. A disturbance is centered just northeast of Tarawa near 2N174E with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms along the equator south of 2N from 164E to 174E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are in patchy areas over the Marshall islands between 9N and 2N from 169E to 174E and east of Majuro between 8N and 5N from 174E to 180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Sunny	▲86	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼80
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼55
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼52
Hong Kong	Showers	▲83	▼73
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼71
London	Mostly Sunny	▲54	▼43
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲72	▼53
Manila	Thundershowers	▲94	▼79
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲80	▼62
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼73
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼48
Osaka	Showers	▲68	▼54
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼39
Pusan	Showers	▲63	▼48
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼57
Salem	Showers	▲63	▼45
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼50
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼47
Tokyo	Rain	▲63	▼59
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲63	▼55



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
1:09 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
6:49 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
11:31 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
6:54 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:55 AM	6:34 PM
Friday	5:55 AM	6:34 PM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:34 PM
Sunday	5:54 AM	6:35 PM
Monday	5:53 AM	6:35 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	11:32 PM	10:24 AM
Friday		11:16 AM
Saturday	12:21 AM	12:10 PM
Sunday	1:09 AM	1:06 PM
Monday	1:57 AM	2:02 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 28, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM	UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR	UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM	UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM	UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
				UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETA: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.											
TINIAN TO SAIPAN						6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat				DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	SAIPAN TO ROTA		
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily				7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily				8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily				9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily				10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily				11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily				12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily				1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily				2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily				3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily				4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily				5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			





AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!

# TRUCKLOAD STORE



STORE HOURS: THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 11AM TO 7PM • SATURDAY 9AM TO 7PM

## Mother's Day GIVEAWAY!

VISIT THE TRUCKLOAD STORE BETWEEN TODAY AND SATURDAY MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> & RECEIVE A FREE RAFFLE TICKET TO QUALIFY TO WIN A 3-PIECE LIVING ROOM SET AND OTHER PRIZES! RAFFLE DRAW WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>. NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

NO PURCHASE  
NECESSARY TO WIN



**\$499<sup>95</sup>**

Cala - Eino  
1 Seater Sofa

**\$799<sup>95</sup>**

Cala - Eino  
2 Seater Sofa

**\$999<sup>95</sup>**

Cala - Eino  
3 Seater Sofa



**\$179<sup>95</sup>**

Botai Leather Recliner  
Black or Brown



**\$129<sup>95</sup>**

Panasonic 2.2 Cubic Feet Microwave



**\$99<sup>95</sup>**

Oster 0.7 Cubic Feet Microwave



**\$129<sup>95</sup>**

Black & Decker 1.1 Cubic Feet Microwave



**\$24<sup>95</sup>**

Proctor Silex 4 Slice Toaster Oven



**\$19<sup>95</sup>**

Better Chef  
12 Cup  
Coffeemaker



**\$26<sup>95</sup>**

Wantech  
Contempo  
Mini Table Lamp



**\$3<sup>95</sup>**

Throw Pillow 45cmX45cm (17.72"x17.72")



**\$35<sup>95</sup>**

Emirates 4'X6'  
Area Rug



**\$35<sup>95</sup>**

Dahdoul 3 Piece Embroidery  
Bedspread Queen Size



**\$49<sup>95</sup>**

Dahdoul Vanguard 7 Piece  
Comforter Set-Queen Size



**\$19<sup>95</sup>**

Dahdoul  
18 Piece  
Shaggy  
Daddy  
Bath Set



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We reserve the right to limit quantity purchases on all items.

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**322-0430**



MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED





# AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!

## TRUCKLOAD STORE direct from K MART

STORE HOURS: THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 11AM TO 7PM • SATURDAY 9AM TO 7PM



Avanti 7.4 cu.ft.  
Refrigerator  
**\$499<sup>95</sup>**



Graco Simple  
Snuggles Bouncer  
**\$65<sup>95</sup>**

Disney Sit & Create Activity Desk  
**\$14<sup>95</sup>**



BMSD (15818-1)  
20" Bicycle  
**\$115<sup>95</sup>**



BMSD (15818-2)  
24" Bicycle  
**\$115<sup>95</sup>**



Shimano (ST510)  
26" Bicycle  
**\$169<sup>95</sup>**



BMW 4 Series Ride On  
with Remote Control  
**\$179<sup>95</sup>**

Weslo Cardio Stride Manual Treadmill **\$149<sup>95</sup>**



Wilson  
Derrick Rose  
29.5"  
Basketball  
**\$24<sup>95</sup>**



**\$24<sup>95</sup>**



Hong Ma  
5 Feet Table  
**\$39<sup>95</sup>**



Children's  
Character  
6 Drawer  
Plastic Dresser  
**\$89<sup>95</sup>**



LG 5,000 BTU  
Air Conditioner  
**\$149<sup>95</sup>**



GPX Boombox  
**\$39<sup>95</sup>**



**\$12<sup>95</sup>**



**\$25<sup>95</sup>**



Impress 12"  
Table Fan  
**\$19<sup>95</sup>**



**\$2<sup>95</sup>**

Better Chef  
Cake Stand  
& Dome  
**\$16<sup>95</sup>**



Better Chef Forged Ceramic  
8 Ounce Frying Pan  
**\$10<sup>95</sup>**



Better Chef 18 Piece  
Glassware Set  
**\$18<sup>95</sup>**



Better Chef  
Electric  
Can Opener  
**\$13<sup>95</sup>**



Better Chef  
Stainless  
Steel 100 Cup  
Coffee Urn  
**\$129<sup>95</sup>**



Igloo 5 Gallon Seat  
Top Beverage Cooler  
**\$27<sup>95</sup>**



Hamilton Beach 6 Speed  
200 Watt Hand Mixer  
**\$14<sup>95</sup>**



Blue Harbor  
Zebra Print  
Glass Condiment  
4 Piece Set  
**\$6<sup>95</sup>**



Gibson 12 Piece Casual  
Blue Band Dinnerware Set  
**\$17<sup>95</sup>**



Slayer 4 Piece  
Glass Set  
**\$2<sup>95</sup>**



Polypropylene  
Plastic 14 Piece  
Dish Drainer  
**\$8<sup>95</sup>**



Yonardo  
Tool Box  
**\$12<sup>95</sup>**



Essential Home  
8 Piece Hanger Set  
**\$2<sup>95</sup>**



1800 Series 4 Piece  
Queen  
Sheet Set  
**\$19<sup>95</sup>**

1800 Series 4 Piece  
King  
Sheet Set  
**\$19<sup>95</sup>**



Craftsman  
94 Piece  
Mechanical  
Tool Set  
**\$69<sup>95</sup>**



Angle  
Broom  
with  
Wooden  
Handle  
**\$1<sup>95</sup>**



Shark Navigator  
Swivel Plus  
Vacuum Cleaner  
Refurb  
**\$139<sup>95</sup>**



Donut 23"  
Dog Bed  
**\$8<sup>95</sup>**



Luxury Chrome  
3-Tier  
Shower Caddy  
**\$10<sup>95</sup>**



Essential Home Belmont  
6 Drawer Dresser  
**\$159<sup>95</sup>**



Dorel Computer Desk  
**\$69<sup>95</sup>**



Sleeping  
Bag  
**\$9<sup>95</sup>**



**Come and visit us at the Triple J Wholesale Store**  
We reserve the right to limit quantity purchases on all items.

**For more info, please call: 322-0430**



MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



# Hyatt stages successful Charity Golf Classic

The success of the Hyatt Regency Saipan 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic event was overwhelming.

Formally known as the Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic, the 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic was held last Saturday, April 23, at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort west course.

With generous in-kind and cash donations, this year's golf classic was nothing short of success—a success the hotel could not have achieved without the heartfelt contributions of event partners, sponsors, players, and volunteer associates.

All proceeds will go to the event's primary beneficiary, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, aiding them in their mission to grant wishes to children with life-threatening diseases and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute as a secondary beneficiary as they continue in their mission to develop and train essential trade skills to enhance our community.

"On behalf of Hyatt Regency Saipan, we would like to thank all the event partners, sponsors, golf players, and volunteer associates for their dedication, generosity, and enthusiasm. Their support will

grant wishes for our Make-A-Wish Foundation recipients and open new opportunities for the Northern Marianas Trades Institute. When we take care of our community with shared commitment and partnerships, goals are met and community relationships are forged. The impact we made together for the past 20 years, and the impact we again made this year could not have been possible without your continued involvement and dedication. And, for this, I personally extend my sincerest gratitude," said Hyatt general manager Nick K. Nishikawa.

"The Hyatt Regency Saipan 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic will be remembered as one of the premier events of the year. Our event partners and sponsors once again exceeded our expectations in support of our beneficiaries. I, personally, would like to thank our team of hardworking and dedicated volunteer associates who initiated planning and organizing of the event earlier this year. Their extra attention to details ensured the event ran smoothly. As we begin planning for our next tournament, the Hyatt Regency Saipan 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic

we look forward to partnering with our island community again in creating another memorable event," said Hyatt Regency Saipan director of Food and Beverage Tyrell Pauling.

The sponsorship tiers for this year's event were as follows:

■ Platinum: \$2,000 in cash or in-kind donations

■ Gold: \$1,500 in cash or in-kind donations

■ Silver: \$750 in cash or in-kind donations

■ Bronze: Less than US\$750 in cash or in-kind donations. (PR)

## 2016 Businesswoman of the Year to be announced at Gala

**MAITE, Guam**—The 2016 First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine* Businesswoman of the Year Maga'hāga award recipient will be announced on Saturday, April 30, at the 11th Annual Businesswoman of the Year Gala at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

The 2016 nominees are:

■ Jessica M. Barrett, president, Barrett Enterprises Inc., which does business as Barrett Plumbing;

■ Eleanor T. Cabrera, president, Transcends LLC, which does business as Naked Fish Bar & Grill;

■ Wendi S. Herring, general manager, Asia Pacific Hotels Inc., which does business as Kanoa Resort Saipan;

■ Dr. Jitka Lom, president and medical director, Express-Care Health and Skin Center Inc.;

■ Polly D. Masga, general manager, Marianas Medical Center;

■ Donna R. Muña Quinata, senior vice president, Guam AutoSpot; and

■ Sophia Chu Wigsten,

general manager, Hyatt Regency Guam.

The *Guam Business Magazine* May-June issue, featuring a photo of the winner on its cover, will be released in conjunction with the announcement of the winner.

The award program recognizes businesswomen in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands who have made significant contributions to their industries and have demonstrated a strong commitment to their community. Through proceeds from the gala, the program also funds scholarships for students pursuing business and related degrees at the University of Guam, Guam Community College and Northern Marianas College.

For more information, contact Joy White, assistant editor of *Guam Business Magazine*, at (671) 649-0883 ext. 125 or [assist\\_editor@glimpsof-guam.com](mailto:assist_editor@glimpsof-guam.com) or Barbie Jane Agahan, assistant advertising manager for First Hawaiian Bank, at (671) 475-7908 or [bagahan@fhhb.com](mailto:bagahan@fhhb.com). (PR)

## USP4GG Marianas chapter to offer free health screening

In an effort to increase awareness on maintaining good health and to promote education on disease prevention, the US Pinoys for Good Governance (USPGG) and National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) Marianas chapter (CNMI and Guam), in collaboration with El Shaddai Saipan chapter, will be holding a free three-hour health screening on Sunday, May 1, 2016 from 8am to 11am, at the Minachom Atdao Pavilion.

Registration starts at 7am and will be continuing until 10am.

People who would like to avail the blood sugar tests are advised to do fasting or to refrain from eating and drinking liquids preferably 12 hours or two hours prior to the actual testing.

Several key vital metrics include blood pressure, blood sugar, weight, height, Body Mass Index (BMI), and vision.

"Knowing where your health stands help you start

realistic personal health goals for the rest of year of 2016. Free health screening events help members of the community take charge of their health. Further, providing such free services not only signifies volunteerism but is also a gesture of a concern to the health of every member of our community for disease prevention," said Dr. Celia Lamkin, chairperson of USPGG and NaFFAA Marianas Chapter, and founder and chairperson of the Global Filipino Diaspora Marianas CNMI and Guam.

Information on disease prevention such as hypertension, high cholesterol, diabetes, stroke, heart attack, obesity, among others, will be distributed at the health screening site.

The USPGG Marianas chapter, NaFFAA Marianas chapter, and GFDM are committed to provide free health screening services to all members of the community regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, citizenship, and religion. (PR)

## FOR MAY 9 PH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS NYMWPS urges support for Roxas-Robredo tandem



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. Celia Lamkin, founder and global chairperson of the National Youth Movement of the West Philippine Sea, speaks during the induction ceremony of the local chapter of the NYMWPS on Saipan.

Last April 9, the officers of the National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea in the Philippines and globally met and unanimously voted to adopt the resolution to support the Roxas-Robredo tandem for the May 9, 2016 Philippine Election, according to Dr. Celia Lamkin, founder and global chairperson of the National Youth Movement of the West Philippine Sea and chairperson of the U.S. Pinoys for the Good Governance CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, and American Samoa.

The movement endorsed former secretary Mar Roxas and Congresswoman Leni Robredo because they are the best candidates to be the next President and Vice President of the Philippines regarding their strong stand for the West Philippine Sea

issues and have proven integrity, competence, and experienced leadership.

It was further resolved that the NYMWPS, its officers, and members in the Philippines and globally shall support the candidacies of Roxas and Robredo as President and Vice President, respectively and urge other Filipino citizens to vote for them.

Lamkin added the NYMWPS, which has 20 chapters in the Philippines, USA, Asia, the UK, Europe, Canada, Middle East, Africa, American Samoa, the CNMI, and Guam, is a non-partisan movement and it serves the nation's interests to have as the next President of the Philippines one who will continue to have a strong stand for our West Philippine Sea position and continue with the

arbitration case filed by the Philippines against China, allying the Philippines with other nations against China's bullying tactics, informing the world of China's illegal intrusion into Philippine territory and massive destruction of huge areas of pristine marine environment.

The officers and members of the NYMWPS earlier committed to uphold the territorial integrity of the Philippines with the following goals and objectives:

1. To assert our government's position of preserving sovereignty and territorial integrity over territory which has vast oil and marine resources in the West Philippine Sea which is within the 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone of the Philippines as defined by the United Nations

Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

2. To instill the values of patriotism to the Filipino youth as well as to rekindle their national spirit.

3. To effectively educate the youth on current West Philippine Sea issues vis-a-vis China and raise awareness of their importance to our nation's present and future interest.

4. To enable our youth to participate in activities that protect our important interests in the in the West Philippine Sea including securing the safety and livelihood of our citizens who fish and/or reside within our 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone in the West Philippine Sea such as those in Pag-Asa Island and other Kalayaan Group of Islands, Palawan, and the Scarborough Shoal or Bajo de Masinloc. (PR)



## Business

### Apple reports iPhone sales down, first revenue drop since 2003

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)**—Apple sold more than 51 million iPhones in the first three months of this year—and that's the problem.

That's 10 million fewer iPhones than the tech giant sold during the same quarter a year ago. As a result, Apple on Tuesday reported its first drop in quarterly revenue in 13 years—and the first-ever year-over-year decline in iPhone sales.

The slide is putting more pressure on Apple and CEO Tim Cook to come up with its next big product.

Cook, of course, has problems many corporate bosses would kill to have. Despite the decline in sales, Apple managed to rack up \$10.5 billion in profit for the quarter.

"The future of Apple is very bright," Cook told analysts on a conference call Tuesday.

But Apple is battling per-



AP  
In this March 21, 2016, file photo, Apple CEO Tim Cook speaks at an event to announce new products at Apple headquarters in Cupertino, Calif.

ceptions that its latest iPhones aren't that different from previous models, at a time when overall smartphone sales are slowing around the world. Apple also sells iPads, Mac computers and other gadgets, but nearly two-thirds of its \$50.6 billion in quarterly revenue came from iPhones.

"They need to come out with that next great product," said Angelo Zino, a financial analyst with S&P Global Market Intelligence. Zino said that while he is optimistic about the company's future, "Apple absolutely needs to start diversifying their revenue base."

### Governments struggle to enforce 'living wage' laws

**SEATTLE (AP)**—States and cities whose lawmakers proudly passed "living wage" laws are finding it difficult to make sure employers actually pay their workers accordingly.

Seattle and San Francisco, and the states of Oregon, California and New York are phasing in wage increases that will grow to \$15 an hour or more.

Evidence of compliance is plain to see in the hours-worked total on most pay stubs, but state and federal laws don't require employers to routinely provide this crucial detail to the government. Without this data, wage enforcers who are empowered to

investigate generally wait until a worker complains.

And many workers—especially those in precarious situations—fear they'll be fired if they speak up.

"It's pretty shocking how common the violations are," said Donna Levitt, director of the labor enforcement office in San Francisco, which began ramping up to \$15 an hour last year. Her office has recovered more than \$10 million in back wages since 2004.

The new laws are meaningless without proactive enforcement, labor advocates say, citing research that shows roughly one in four businesses

nationwide already cheat their workers out of minimum wages.

"It's just so pervasive and so rampant," said Haeyoung Yoon of the National Employment Law Project.

Her group advocates higher fines to give employers more incentives to follow the laws, along with tougher enforcement nationwide.

"There's just not enough boots on the ground to wipe it out, because the problem is so enormous," Yoon said.

Without a proactive approach, officials aren't even sure how many violators are out there.

### Mitsubishi Motors says false mileage tests done since 1991

**TOKYO (AP)**—Mitsubishi Motors Corp., the Japanese automaker that acknowledged last week that it had intentionally lied about fuel economy data for some models, said an internal investigation found such tampering dated to 1991.

The company also was told by U.S. environmental regulators that it must do additional testing to verify gas mileage on the models it sells in the country.

President Tetsuro Aikawa told reporters Tuesday the probe was ongoing, suggesting that more irregularities might be found.

"We don't know the whole picture and we are in the process of trying to determine that," he said at a news conference at the transport ministry.

"I feel a great responsibility."

Aikawa said so much was unknown that it's uncertain what action the company will take. He said he didn't know why employees resorted to such tactics to make mileage look better.

Late Tuesday, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said it has told Mitsubishi to do more real world tests for all models it sells in the country. But the agency would not say if it suspects Mitsubishi of cheating here, or whether the agency is doing its own tests.

Mitsubishi sells five models in the U.S. including three cars and two SUVs.

Tokyo-based Mitsubishi Motors had repeatedly promised to come clean after a massive scandal 15 years ago in-

volving a systematic cover-up of auto defects.

The inaccurate mileage tests involved 157,000 of its eK wagon and eK Space light passenger cars, and 468,000 Dayz and Dayz Roxx vehicles produced for Nissan Motor Co.

The models are all so-called "minicars" with tiny engines whose main attraction is generally great mileage. They were produced from March 2013. The problem surfaced after Nissan pointed out inconsistencies in data.

The automaker found the company's mileage goal for the minicars that had been set in 2011 was suddenly raised in 2013. Why that happened is unclear, according to officials.

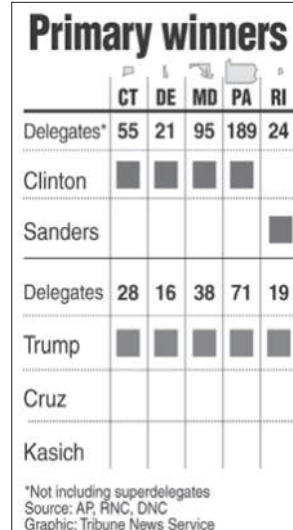
## Nation

### Trump routs rivals in Northeast; Clinton carries four states

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)**—In a front-runner's rout, Republican Donald Trump roared to victory Tuesday in five contests across the Northeast and confidently declared himself the GOP's "presumptive nominee." Hillary Clinton was dominant in four Democratic races and now is 90 percent of the way to the number she needs to claim her own nomination.

Trump's and Clinton's wins propelled them ever closer to a general election showdown. Still, Sanders and Republicans Ted Cruz and John Kasich, vowed to keep running, even as opportunities to top the leaders dwindle.

Trump still must negotiate a narrow path to keep from falling short of the delegates needed to seal the nomination before the Republican National Convention in July. Cruz and Kasich are working toward that result, which



would leave Trump open to a floor fight in which delegates could turn to someone else.

Trump was having none of that. "It's over. As far as I'm concerned it's over," he declared at his victory rally in the lobby of Trump Tower in New York. He now has 77 percent of the delegates he needs.

With Clinton's four victories - she ceded only Rhode Island to Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders - she now has 90 percent of the delegates she needs to become the first woman nominated by a major party. Clinton kept her focus firmly on the general election as she spoke to supporters Tuesday night, urging Sanders' loyal supporters to help her unify the Democratic Party and reaching out to GOP voters who may be unhappy with their party's options.

"If you are a Democrat, an independent or a thoughtful Republican, you know that their approach is not going to build an America where we increase opportunity or decrease inequality," Clinton said of the GOP candidates. She spoke in Philadelphia, where Democrats will gather in July for their nominating convention.

### Coroner: Most Ohio victims shot many times, some bruised

**CINCINNATI (AP)**—A coroner's report released Tuesday showed new details of vicious violence in the shooting deaths of eight members of a rural southern Ohio family, finding most victims were shot three to nine times each and some of them were bruised. Meanwhile, the hunt for whoever is responsible continued to expand, with more than 200 law enforcement officials involved.

A 911 caller on Friday said the bodies of two people found in one home looked to be beaten up. Attorney General Mike DeWine has called the slayings a carefully planned and "sophisticated operation" carried out

against eight members of the Rhoden family by one or more killers.

The Hamilton County coroner said the victims—three women, four men and a 16-year-old boy—had wounds to their heads, torso and other parts of the body. Dr. Lakshmi Sammarco said one victim had a single wound, one had two wounds, and the rest had three or more. The report didn't specify which victim had which number of wounds.

Some victims showed "signs of soft tissue bruising," her report stated. Sammarco's office declined to discuss its findings, citing the ongoing investigation.

Funeral arrangements for the victims hadn't yet been announced.

Authorities haven't suggested a motive or suspects. DeWine has said there were marijuana-growing operations found at three of the four places where bodies were found in Pike County, a rural Appalachian Mountain region roughly 80 miles east of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

DeWine said Tuesday that investigators have received more than 300 tips and are still serving search warrants. He said 79 pieces of evidence have been sent to a state crime lab for testing and analysis, including for DNA and fingerprints.

### Details of sex abuse could mean prison time for Haster

**CHICAGO (AP)**—When Dennis Hastert pleaded guilty last year to breaking banking laws, sentencing guidelines suggested that the former House speaker would probably serve no more than six months in prison for making illegal withdrawals to conceal a dark secret from his past.

But after prosecutors lifted a veil of secrecy from the case, the judge made comments that suggested he might impose a longer sentence, potentially putting Hastert behind bars for several years, because of allegations that he molested at least four student athletes when he

was a high school wrestling coach.

Word that one of the accusers will speak at the sentencing hearing is sure to turn up the pressure on Judge Thomas M. Durkin to reject defense calls for probation and send the 74-year-old Republican to prison.

If that happens, Hastert, who was second in the line of succession to the presidency after the vice president and the nation's longest-serving GOP speaker, would become one of the highest ranking politicians in American history ever to be incarcerated.

Prosecutors have said they would have preferred

to charge Hastert with a sex crime. But because the statute of limitations on sexual abuse ran out decades ago, they settled for banking violations. Hastert admitted evading financial regulations when he began withdrawing money to pay another victim \$3.5 million to ensure his silence.

Authorities have made it clear they intend to treat the sex-abuse allegations, not the banking violations, as their focus at sentencing. Court practices generally allow discussion of a defendant's personal history and character, especially if some bad behavior is related to the crime.



# Asia

## N. Korea almost completes its nuclear test preparation

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's president said Tuesday that North Korea has almost completed preparations for a fifth nuclear test, and the country has reportedly placed a new mid-range missile on standby for an impending launch.

North Korea said two days ago it had successfully test-fired a ballistic missile from a submarine in a continuation of its weapons tests during ongoing South Korea-U.S. military drills. Seoul officials said they could not confirm whether Saturday's test-firing was a success. Meeting with senior South Korean journalists, President Park Geun-hye said South Korea believes North Korea can conduct a nuclear

test anytime it decides to do so. She didn't elaborate on why South Korea made such an assessment.

Other South Korean officials have made similar recent comments without elaborating amid media reports of increased activity at the country's main nuclear test site. Park said last week there were signs North Korea was preparing for a new nuclear test.

Speculation about a fifth nuclear test increased last month when the North's state media cited leader Kim Jong Un as ordering a test of a nuclear warhead and ballistic missiles capable of carrying warheads.

North Korea conducted a fourth nuclear test in January and a long-range rocket

launch in February, and the country was subsequently slapped with tough U.N. sanctions. Park said Tuesday a further provocation by North Korea would only speed up its collapse, according to her office.

The United States in recent years has deployed additional missile defense technology to the region to counter North Korean threats and is in talks with Seoul about deploying the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system to the country. President Barack Obama, in a CBS News interview released Tuesday, said the goal of the stepped-up U.S. efforts is to create a "shield" against the North.

## PH troops hunt extremists who beheaded Canadian

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine military came under increased pressure Tuesday to rescue more than 20 foreign hostages after their Muslim extremist captors beheaded a Canadian man, but troops face a dilemma in how to succeed without endangering the remaining captives.

Abu Sayyaf gunmen beheaded John Ridsdel on Monday in the southern province of Sulu, sparking condemnations and prompting Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to pledge to help the Philippines pursue the extremists behind the "heinous act."

"Canada condemns without reservation the brutality of the hostage takers and this unne-

cessary death," Trudeau told reporters. "This was an act of cold-blooded murder and responsibility rests squarely with the terrorist group who took him hostage."

Trudeau said he spoke earlier with President Benigno Aquino III.

"The discussions I had with President Aquino and are continuing to have with our allies in the Philippines is the need to bring these criminals to justice and to do whatever we can to express that we are very concerned about security of Canadians, but at the same time, we will not pay a ransom," Trudeau said.

Ridsdel's head, which was placed in a plastic bag, was

dumped by motorcycle-riding militants Monday night in Jolo town in impoverished Sulu, a densely forested province about 950 kilometers (590 miles) south of Manila, where the Abu Sayyaf and allied gunmen are believed to be holding 22 foreign hostages from six Western and Asian countries.

It's a politically sensitive time for troops to carry out major offensives, at the height of campaigning in a closely fought race among four contenders in the May 9 presidential election. President Aquino and opposition politicians have had differences over the handling of the Muslim insurgency and the social ills that foster it.

news briefing that the matter is an internal affair and the EU should refrain from interfering in matters concerning the former British colony. "Matters related to Hong Kong are purely China's internal affairs. No external forces should interfere," Hua said. "We urge the European side to watch their words and acts and to halt immediately the interference in Hong Kong affairs."

### Cambodian elephant tour agency eases animals' workload

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—The owner of a company that provides elephant rides to tourists at Cambodia's fabled Angkor Wat temple complex has reduced the working hours of his animals after one collapsed and died in the debilitating heat enveloping Southeast Asia. Angkor Elephant Co. owner Oan Kiri said Tuesday his remaining elephants will work 2 1/2 hours in the morning and about two hours in the late afternoon, an hour less than previously. He said he decided to reduce their work after a female named Sambo died Friday after carrying some tourists. He said veterinarians blamed the death on heart failure from stress triggered by the temperature, which has pushed past 38 C (100 F) in recent days.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### PM Hun Sen says all Cambodians must help deal with drought

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—The prime minister Tuesday called upon all elements in Cambodian society to mobilize to help deal with the worst drought in at least four decades, which has left about two-thirds of the country's 25 provinces short of water for drinking and other necessities. The armed forces, civil servants, the Red Cross and political parties must all pitch in to ensure adequate water supplies reach people, Hun Sen said in a speech in the northwestern province of Banteay Meanchey. He said he has ordered all provincial governors to stay in their home areas to help people instead of attending meetings in the capital.

#### Beijing opposes EU report on HK booksellers case

BEIJING (AP)—Beijing told the European Union on Tuesday to stay out of its internal affairs in response to criticism that China's investigation of five Hong Kong booksellers undermined the territory's autonomy and damaged its rule of law. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said at a regular

# World

## Memories painful on Chernobyl's 30th anniversary

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—As Ukraine and Belarus on Tuesday marked the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear accident with solemn words and an angry protest, some of the men who were sent to the site in the first chaotic and frightening days were gripped by painful memories.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko led a ceremony in Chernobyl, where work is underway to complete a 2 billion euro (\$2.25 billion) long-term shelter over the building containing Chernobyl's exploded reactor. Once the structure is in place, work will begin to remove the reactor and its lava-like radioactive waste.

The disaster shone a spotlight on lax safety standards and government secrecy in the former Soviet Union. The explosion on April 26, 1986, was not reported by Soviet authorities for two days, and then only after winds had carried the fallout across Europe and



Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko lays flowers at a monument to the victims of the Chernobyl tragedy outside the nuclear power plant in Ukraine, Tuesday, April 26, 2016. AP

Swedish experts had gone public with their concerns.

"We honor those who lost their health and require a special attention from the government and society," Poroshenko said. "It's with an everlasting pain in our hearts that we remember those who lost their lives to fight nuclear death."

About 600,000 people, often referred to as Chernobyl's "liquidators," were sent in to

fight the fire at the nuclear plant and clean up the worst of its contamination. Thirty workers died either from the explosion or from acute radiation sickness within several months. The accident exposed millions in the region to dangerous levels of radiation and forced a wide-scale, permanent evacuation of hundreds of towns and villages in Ukraine and Belarus.

## Third wave of migrants returned to Turkey from Greece

ISTANBUL (AP)—Dozens of migrants arrived in Turkey on Tuesday, Turkish officials said, as part of a migration deal with the European Union meant to stem the flow of people heading to Europe's prosperous heartland.

Ferries carrying a total of 49 migrants from the Greek islands of Kos, Chios and Lesbos reached the Turkish port towns of Gulluk, Cesme and Dikili, according to Turkish news agencies and an official at Dikili, who spoke on

condition of anonymity in line with government rules.

According to the deal finalized last month, Turkey will take back migrants who reached Greece after March 20, unless they successfully apply for asylum in Greece. For every Syrian among those returned, Europe has pledged to take a Syrian refugee directly from Turkey to be resettled in an EU country.

Tuesday's group, from Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan

and Myanmar, was the third wave of migrants to be returned to Turkey.

As part of the deal, some refugee camps on the eastern Aegean Greek islands have been turned into closed detention centers holding those who face potential deportation.

One of those is Moria camp on Lesbos, where a protest broke out Tuesday during a visit there by the Greek migration affairs minister and a Dutch official.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Iraqi parliament approves partial Cabinet reshuffle

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's parliament approved a partial Cabinet reshuffle proposed by Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi on Tuesday, bowing to mounting public pressure for reform, including mass protests led by an influential Shiite cleric. Thousands of followers of Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr had earlier massed outside the capital's heavily fortified Green Zone, calling for political reform and an end to corruption. The protesters back al-Abadi's planned reshuffle, which would hand key portfolios to independent technocrats in a bid to root out patronage and corruption that have hindered the provision of public services since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion. Last month, al-Abadi proposed reducing the number of Cabinet ministers to 16, from the previous 21-member government. He submitted the names of independent technocrats for 14 ministerial positions, but said he would hold off on replacing the defense and interior ministers because of the tense security situation.

#### NTSB: Search crews find El Faro's missing data recorder

Search crews on Tuesday found the missing data recorder of the sunken freighter El Faro, which went down in 15,000 feet of water last year after getting caught in Hurricane Joaquin. Scientists and federal accident investigators using a remotely operated undersea vehicle found the device northeast of Acklins and Crooked Islands, Bahamas, the National Transportation Safety Board said. The small device was mounted to the El Faro's mast and has yet to be recovered, officials said. "Finding an object about the size of a basketball almost three miles under the surface of the sea is a remarkable achievement," NTSB Chairman Christopher A. Hart said in a news release. He added that they have not yet figured out how to retrieve the recorder. The 790-foot freighter sank last October after losing propulsion while traveling between Jacksonville and San Juan, Puerto Rico. The ship got caught in Joaquin's 155 mph winds and strong seas. All 33 crew died.



# Environment

## A look at melting ice sheets and the threat to sea levels

By WILLIAM YARDLEY  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The predictions only get worse.

In 2007, a United Nations panel of scientists studying the rise of sea level related to climate change predicted that, if nothing was done to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, seas could rise by about 2 feet by 2100. By 2013, the panel had increased its forecast to more than 3 feet, which would put major cities at risk of flooding and storm surge.

Yet all along, the panel emphasized what it did not know. It expressed particular uncertainty about what could happen to the ice sheet in Antarctica. To help fill in the gaps, it invited outside scientists to contribute their own research.

Now the outside research is bearing fruit — and the news is not good.

A new study published in the journal *Nature* painted perhaps the most ominous picture yet. It showed that, by the end of this century, sea levels could rise 6 feet or more — again, if nothing is done to reduce emissions — potentially inundating many coastal areas, submerging nations and remaking maps of the world.

The study focused on one of the most elusive aspects of sea-level science: What will happen to the West Antarctic ice sheet?

Scientists have long believed the ice sheet would melt from climate change and contribute to higher sea levels. But they believed that the melting, and rising sea levels it would cause, could occur over many hundreds or even thousands of years.

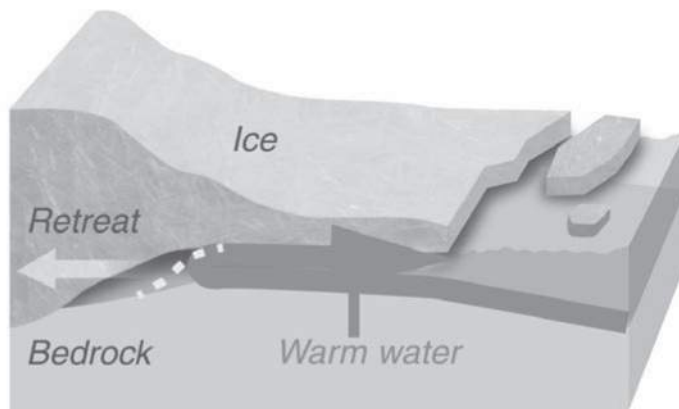
The new study, by Robert DeConto, a geoscientist at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and David Pollard, a geoscientist at Pennsylvania State University, based its finding on models it developed from studying ancient sea level and temperature changes. The scientists found that drastic sea level rise could happen within a lifetime.

As alarming as the study may have seemed to the public and to policymakers, Benjamin Horton, a coastal geologist at Rutgers University in New Jersey who studies sea level, said it did not surprise many people in his field.

In 2013, Horton led a survey of almost 100 sea level scientists that concluded that seas could rise almost 4 feet by 2100 — higher than the United Nations panel's worst

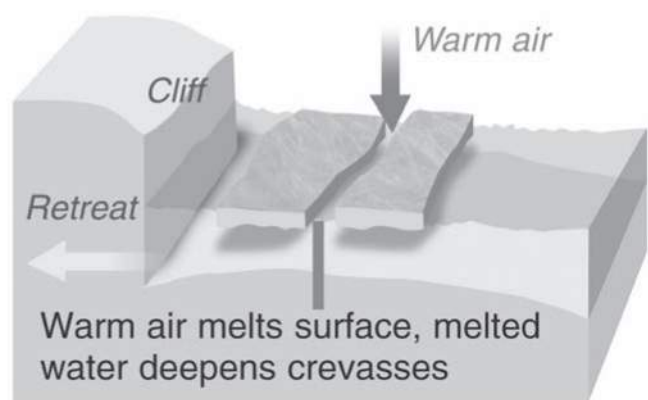
### How marine ice sheets retreat from below

Warm water melts the base of floating ice, allowing ice resting on bedrock to flow to the ocean faster.



### How marine ice sheets retreat from above

Warm air melts surface and floating ice disintegrates, exposing large cliffs which fail under their own weight.



Sources: Robert M. DeConto and David Pollard

Graphic: Raoul Rañoa, Los Angeles Times/TNS

Infographic on ice sheet melting. Los Angeles Times 2016.

TNS

scenario. But within that group, 13 scientists said there was a 17 percent chance that sea levels would rise by 6.6 feet, a figure in line with the study.

Why has it been so hard to predict sea level change?

Predicting changes involves measuring and modeling several different factors that then have to be blended together, Horton said. Those elements include an increase in volume from expansion caused by warming water, the melting

of glaciers in places such as Alaska and the melting of ice sheets in places such as Greenland and Antarctica. Measuring sea changes from the first two, he said, is much easier than measuring what the vast ice sheets are doing.

## In a striking declaration, 175 nations sign historic accord on global warming

By WILLIAM YARDLEY and  
VERA HALLER  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

**NEW YORK**—In a striking declaration that the world is finally ready to change its polluted ways, global leaders gathered at the United Nations headquarters here to sign the historic Paris climate accord, an agreement that is seen as the blueprint for rescuing the planet.

The question is whether the plan will work.

Year after year, decade after decade, the planet has been getting warmer. This March was the warmest in recorded history. Scientists say the future will be filled with food shortages, drought, rising seas and extreme weather if bold action is not taken quickly.

“We are in a race against time,” said United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

Some 175 nations signed the agreement Friday, the first day it could be signed. That is far more than had done so on a single day for any previous global agreement — but it still is also only a step toward the accord becoming interna-

tional law.

For that to happen, at least 55 countries representing at least 55 percent of global emissions have to formally “join” or approve it within their national governments, some by executive action, others through legislative action. That process alone could take into 2017, though Secretary of State John F. Kerry suggested late Friday that the goal could be within reach this year. The United States plans to join the agreement this year.

Even those who helped draft the accord acknowledge that its terms do not meet the goal it outlines of holding the increase in global temperatures to “well below” 2 degrees Celsius, or 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit, above pre-Industrial Revolution levels. Experts said the current agreement would hold the average temperature increase to perhaps just below 3 degrees Celsius.

But nearly a quarter-century after international efforts to address climate change began, world leaders say this time, finally, momentum has shifted, and nations can con-

fidently invest not in fossil fuels that create greenhouse gases but in clean, renewable energy — and still be assured that their economies will grow. Coal companies in the United States are going bankrupt. Access to lower-cost solar and wind power is increasing worldwide.

The accord, adopted by more than 190 nations in December, relies on individual countries to set goals for reducing emissions and to regularly revise those goals upward every five years “to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible.”

The United States, which has committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 26 percent to 28 percent below its 2005 level in 2025, is among the countries that likely will have to revise its goals upward. Complicating matters, in February the Supreme Court issued a temporary stay to the Obama administration’s plan to reduce emissions from power plants.

Kerry told the U.N. on Friday that it misses the point to focus on the fact that the

accord does not guarantee to hold temperature rise to below 2 degrees, or a stronger goal that many groups support of 1.5 degrees.

“The power of this agreement is the opportunity that it creates,” he said. “The power is the message that it sends to the marketplace. It is the unmistakable signal that innovation, entrepreneurial activity, the allocation of capital, the decisions that governments make, all of this is what we now know definitively is what is going to define the new energy future.”

On Friday, some countries vowed to exceed goals they outlined just a few months ago for reducing their emissions. China, the world’s largest emitter of greenhouse gases, said it intends to formally approve the agreement before it hosts the G20 leaders summit representing the world’s largest economies in September. China also reiterated its plans to establish a so-called cap-and-trade market that would put limits on how much carbon emissions industries can burn.

“The Chinese people honor

their commitments,” Zhang Gaoli, the vice premier, told the U.N. “We will work hard to earnestly implement the Paris agreement.”

As Zhang left the podium, Ban Ki-moon said, “That’s great news.”

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada, the West’s new face of progressivism, prompted applause when he said his country would give money to help developing nations fight climate change and invest in clean energy — a crucial issue in negotiations leading to the agreement.

“They shouldn’t be punished for a problem they didn’t create,” he said.

The ceremony was held on Earth Day, an event started in 1970. Children filled the aisles of the U.N. and a brass ensemble from Juilliard played. Kerry signed the agreement while holding his granddaughter in his other arm. Leonardo DiCaprio addressed the delegates, quoting Abraham Lincoln, and a young woman from Chad described a once vast but now vanishing lake on which her country depends.

What has helped improved our understanding of how ice sheets melt?

Satellite technology and imagery had made it easier to understand what is happening above and below the West Antarctic ice sheet, Horton said.

“These ice sheets have this double whammy,” he said. “They’re heated at the surface from air temperature and they’re heated at the base from ocean temperatures.”

“They retreat and then they become unstable and they retreat even further. They have all these feedback mechanisms that keep on making the situation worse.”

The process involves what is known as cliff collapse.

“Ponds of meltwater that form on the ice surface often drain through cracks,” the article said. “This can set off a chain reaction that breaks up ice shelves and causes newly exposed ice cliffs to collapse under their own weight.”

How much water do the ice sheets hold?

Horton said that the Greenland ice sheet contains enough ice to raise sea levels 6 meters, or more than 20 feet, if they completely melted. Antarctica holds much more ice, enough to raise seas 65 meters, or more than 200 feet. But this extreme scenario could happen only over thousands of years.

What can be done?

Even as the study released this week predicted potential catastrophe, it also emphasized that the West Antarctic ice sheet probably would cause little change in sea level if temperature increases can be held under 2 degrees Celsius. That is a central goal of the climate agreement reached in Paris in December, though it is far from clear that countries will achieve it.

The obvious solution, Horton said, is to move quickly away from burning fossil fuels that contribute to climate change and rapidly expand solar, wind and other renewable forms of energy.

“We have a choice right now,” he said. “If we strongly mitigate against greenhouse gases, we can keep the sea level rise to a manageable level. These papers are not all doom and gloom. They are providing a warning and we as a scientific community are trying to stress the urgency on climate change.”

“This is a dire warning, a dire prediction, but we can do something about it.”



## Life & Style

# HBO's 'Game of Thrones' opens with bang

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The fantasy favorite “Game of Thrones,” the most popular series in HBO’s history, returned for its sixth season with what may or may not be the show’s most-watched episode ever.

It all depends on which Nielsen company measurement you look at. HBO’s experience is a vivid illustration of how new ways of watching television are imposing difficulties on people whose job it is to pin down how many people actually experience something.

Nielsen estimated that 7.94 million people watched “Game of Thrones” at 9 p.m. EDT Sunday, when the episode first aired. That would make it the third most-popular episode of the series ever, behind the season five finale (8.11 million) and the first episode of last season (8 million).

Add in people who watched the show’s first two repeats, along with those who streamed the episode within 24 hours, and viewership jumps to 10.7 million, HBO said. Because of the growing popularity of streaming, that number eclipses a similar count for last season’s finale (10.3 million).

Just to make it even more confusing, Nielsen does not count people who watched the episode as part of HBO’s free weekend promotion, because they are not regular subscribers.



This image released by HBO shows Ben Crompton, standing, and Kit Harington in a scene from the season six premiere of “Game of Thrones.” Nielsen estimated that 7.94 million people watched “Game of Thrones” at 9 p.m. EDT Sunday, when the episode first aired.

HBO estimates that some 20.2 million people see each episode of “Game of Thrones” in the United States, when all the people who watch on a time-delayed basis are added in. It will be some time before a comparable number for the sixth season premiere is available, of course.

HBO said international viewing of the show is also strong: an estimated 2.2 million watched the season’s first episode in the United Kingdom—where it first aired at 2 a.m. Monday local time.

CBS easily won the week

in prime time, averaging 7.8 million viewers. NBC had 5.3 million viewers, ABC had 4.7 million, Fox had 3 million, Univision had 2 million, the CW had 1.31 million, Telemundo had 1.27 million and ION Television had 1.25 million.

TNT was the week’s most popular cable network, averaging 2.74 million viewers with the NBA playoffs in full swing. Fox News Channel had 1.96 million, TBS had 1.51 million, HGTV had 1.45 million and USA had 1.4 million.

NBC’s “Nightly News”

topped the evening newscasts with an average of 8.1 million viewers. ABC’s “World News Tonight” was second with 7.7 million and the “CBS Evening News” had 6.7 million viewers.

For the week of April 18-24, the top 10 shows, their networks and viewerships: “NCIS,” CBS, 14.8 million; “The Big Bang Theory,” CBS, 14.16 million; “NCIS: New Orleans,” CBS, 12.22 million; “Dancing With the Stars,” ABC, 10.97 million; “The Voice” (Monday, 8 p.m.), NBC, 10.07 million; “60 Minutes,” CBS, 10.05

million; “The Voice” (Tuesday, 8 p.m.), NBC, 9.79 million; “Madam Secretary,”

CBS, 9.57 million; “Empire,” Fox, 9.56 million; “Survivor,” CBS, 9.27 million.

### Nielsen’s top programs for April 18-24

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Prime-time viewership numbers compiled by Nielsen for April 18-24. Listings include the week’s ranking and viewership.

1. “NCIS,” CBS, 14.8 million.
2. “The Big Bang Theory,” CBS, 14.16 million.
3. “NCIS: New Orleans,” CBS, 12.22 million.
4. “Dancing With the Stars,” ABC, 10.97 million.
5. “The Voice” (Monday, 8 p.m.), NBC, 10.07 million.
6. “60 Minutes,” CBS, 10.05 million.
7. “The Voice” (Tuesday, 8 p.m.), NBC, 9.79 million.
8. “Madam Secretary,” CBS, 9.57 million.

9. “Empire,” Fox, 9.56 million.
10. “Survivor,” CBS, 9.27 million.
11. “Criminal Minds,” CBS, 9.14 million.
12. “The Good Wife,” CBS, 8.49 million.
13. “The Odd Couple,” CBS, 8.47 million.
14. “Scorpion,” CBS, 8.35 million.
15. “Mom,” CBS, 8.31 million.
16. “Chicago Fire,” NBC, 8.17 million.
17. “Chicago Med,” NBC, 8.16 million.
18. “Hawaii Five-0,” CBS, 8 million.
19. “Game of Thrones,” HBO, 7.94 million.
20. “NCIS: Los Angeles,” CBS, 7.79 million.

## Charlie Sheen’s lawyers attack ex’s restraining order filing

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Charlie Sheen’s lawyer urged a judge to reject a request by the actor’s ex-fiancée to extend a temporary restraining order, calling the filing a publicity stunt intended to keep an unrelated civil case in the news.

Sheen’s attorney, Martin D. Singer, wrote in a court filing Monday that Sheen has not had any contact with his ex, Scottine Ross, in more than a year. Ross has sued Sheen alleging he was HIV-positive before they had sex, but the case has been moved to private arbitration.

Ross obtained a temporary restraining order earlier this month based on alleged threats the actor made toward her in a recording obtained by celebrity website RadarOnline.com. She also filed a police report, prompting an investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department’s stalking unit.

The order, which could be extended at a hearing Thursday, requires Sheen to refrain from contacting Ross; to stay 100 yards from her, her home, workplace and car; and to turn in any guns he may own. The order also allows Ross, who performs in adult films under the name Brett Rossi, to

record any conversations she has with the actor.

“Charlie Sheen has had no contact or communication with Ross for more than a year,” Singer wrote in an opposition to Ross’ restraining order filing. “He has no intention of contacting or communicating with

Ross in the future. Sheen wants nothing to do with Ross, yet she apparently cannot let go and insists upon remaining a nuisance in his life.”

Ross’ attorney, Brendan Gilbert, did not immediately return a voicemail seeking comment.

Sheen’s filing states Ross has shown no evidence the actor has threatened her and that she has not actually heard the recording RadarOnline says it obtained.

“Aside from reading a tabloid story about it, Ross does not know whether the recording actually exists, whether Sheen speaks on the recording, or what he allegedly says about Ross,” the actor’s filing states.

RadarOnline has said it was served with a warrant seeking audio that is purportedly of Sheen threatening to bury Ross, whose relationship with the actor ended in 2014. The website has said it believes the warrant is illegal.



Sheen

## Lawyer for Phil Spector’s wife calls divorce heartbreaking

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—An attorney for Phil Spector’s wife called a divorce filing by the imprisoned music producer heartbreakingly bizarre and said she has provided the best possible care for him.

Attorney Aaron Abramowitz wrote in a statement Tuesday that Rachelle Spector has been devoted to her husband and has been providing him support and the best possible care while he is incarcerated.

“This whole situation is heartbreakingly bizarre,” Abramowitz wrote. “It is regrettable that Mr. Spector has failed to recognize the efforts made by Rachelle in spending tens of thousands of dollars on his medical and dental costs while incarcerated.”

Court records in Stockton, California, show Spector filed for divorce on March 18. A copy of his filing, which was first reported by celebrity website TMZ, was not immediately available.

Spector, 75, is housed at a



In this March 28, 2008 file photo, music producer Phil Spector and his wife Rachelle Spector, arrive at the Los Angeles County Superior Court for a discovery hearing in downtown Los Angeles.

prison facility in Stockton that provides medical and mental health care to the state’s sickest inmates, including those with chronic conditions.

He is famous for revolutionizing rock music with his “Wall of Sound” that merged beautiful vocal harmonies with lavish

orchestral arrangements to produce such pop hits as “Da Doo Ron Ron,” “Be My Baby,” “He’s a Rebel” and the Righteous Brothers’ version of “You’ve Lost that Loving Feeling.”

Abramowitz said Rachelle Spector obtained her pilots license to make it easier to visit her husband.

The Spectors met at a Hollywood restaurant in 2003, shortly after he was arrested in the shooting death of Lana Clarkson. The producer was later convicted of killing Clarkson and is serving sentence of 19 years to life.

The pair married in 2006, and Rachelle Spector has been running her husband’s businesses while he is imprisoned. She also obtained a private investigator license to assist with her husband’s appeal of the conviction.

Phil Spector’s attorney, John H. McKinley, had no immediate comment on Abramowitz’s statement Tuesday.



# Strahan to exit 'Live' in May, Ripa says all is forgiven

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Kelly Ripa returned to her daytime talk show Tuesday after time off to “gather (her) thoughts” in response to learning her co-host Michael Strahan is leaving, saying the incident had started a conversation about workplace respect.

She also told the audience that her bosses had apologized to her, and she’d received assurances that the “Live with Kelly and Michael” show was important to parent Walt Disney Co.

But only hours after the show’s telecast, Ripa’s remarks were upstaged by an updated announcement that Strahan will leave in May for full-time duties on ABC’s “Good Morning America,” not in September, as previously indicated.

Strahan’s last day on “Live” will now be May 13, “which not only gives the show the



chance to have a nice send-off for him during the May (ratings) book, but to also immediately begin the on-air search for a new co-host,” said a publicist for the show.

Ripa, Strahan, and producers of “Live” and “GMA” were consulted in reaching the decision on Strahan’s departure date, the publicist said.

The former soap opera

actress has been co-host of “Live” since 2001, first with Regis Philbin and then with Strahan.

In between the two men’s tenures, Ripa bridged a nine-

<sup>AP</sup>  
In this Oct. 12, 2015 file photo, Kelly Ripa, left, poses with Michael Strahan, her co-host on the daily television talk show “LIVE! with Kelly and Michael,” during a ceremony honoring Ripa with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in Los Angeles.

month gap during which she sat alongside some 60 substi-

tute and tryout co-hosts.

Prior to her return, Ripa had reportedly been upset that she learned only a few minutes before the public last Tuesday that Strahan, her co-host since 2012, was exiting for “GMA.” He works part-time on the morning news show now and executives there are looking for a way to turn around fading ratings.

## Alicia Keys to debut new music at Champions League Final



**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)**—Alicia Keys will debut new music from her next album during the first-ever live musical performance as a part of the opening ceremony for the UEFA Champions League Final in Italy next month.

UEFA and Pepsi announced that the Grammy-winning singer will be the first musical act to perform as a part of the

final, which is aired in more than 220 countries.

The singer has been working on a follow-up to her 2012 studio album “Girl on Fire,” but she was coy about the new songs she’ll be performing on May 28.

“I have to leave it as a surprise for sure ‘cause that’s ... part of the fun of it,” Keys said in a phone interview from New York on Tuesday. “But

<sup>AP</sup>  
In this March 23, 2016 file photo, singer Alicia Keys performs at the coffee company’s annual shareholders meeting in Seattle.

you’re definitely going to hear some new music.”

The multi-platinum singer, songwriter and pianist was feeling the energy and excitement of spring as she talked about the upcoming performance and new music. The mother of two is also going to be the musical guest on “Saturday Night Live” on May 7 and will be a judge on the next season of “The Voice,” alongside Blake Shelton, Adam Levine and Miley Cyrus.

“It’s such a fresh time for music. To me, it’s my favorite time,” Keys said.

She’ll have a global stage to introduce her new music to millions of football fans

worldwide from the Stadio Giuseppe Meazza in Milan. And as the inaugural performance for the opening ceremony, she said wants to put her own creative stamp on the show.

“It’s pretty insane. I know there is going to be 80,000 people there in person and people are all over the world are going to witness it and watch this and celebrate,” Keys said. “It’s a huge space to fill.”

Music, Keys said, transcends language, so she’s excited to perform for fans all around Europe.

“No matter what you speak, you understand. You understand the emotion, you understand the feeling,” she said. “And I think that’s what is so magical about music, what makes us love it so much.”

Keys also said she is looking forward to returning to Italy, a place that feels like home to her.

## Prince’s old band plans to reunite for ‘some shows’



<sup>AP</sup>  
In this 1985 file photo, singer Prince performs in concert. Prince’s old band is reuniting for some live shows following his death.

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)**—Prince’s old band is reuniting for some live shows following his death.

Members of the Revolution made the announcement in a video posted online Tuesday.

Five band members appear in the video, sitting on a couch. Guitarist Wendy Melvoin says the group’s members decided, after spending “three or four days together” grieving Prince’s death, that they would like

to “come out and do some shows.”

She says the group wants to let fans know “we’ll be there soon,” but gave no details.

Drummer Bobby Z told the Star Tribune he’s “happy it’s good news” but declined further comment.

None of the members could immediately be reached by The Associated Press for comment.

The Revolution gained fame as Prince’s band during his hit 1984 movie “Purple Rain.”

## Sister struggles to reconcile love for brother and her faith

**DEAR ABBY:** I am very excited to be proposing soon to the man I want to spend my life with. My family is excited for me—with one exception. My younger sister, whom I want to be my best woman, says she doesn’t know if she will be able to participate in our wedding because she’s having trouble reconciling that her faith tells her same-sex marriage is a sin. I have explained that it will be a civil ceremony with a judge instead of a religious figure and she says that this “helps,” but she still doesn’t know if she can be part of it.

I love my sister and I know that if she didn’t love me in return, she wouldn’t be struggling with this; she just wouldn’t participate. She’s racking her brain and her Bible trying to find a way to square her faith with her love for me and my soon-to-be fiancé.

Despite this, I can’t help feeling hurt that she views my relationship as a sin she can’t be part of. If she decides she can’t stand with me in my wedding, I don’t know what to do. If she can’t support my marriage, should I ask her to not come to the ceremony?

WEDDING WOES

**DEAR WEDDING WOES:** I don’t think you should be retaliatory and tell your sister to stay away if she feels her faith doesn’t permit her to be a member of your wedding party. If that’s the case, she may decide on her own not to attend.

**What you should do—right now—is decide whom else you would like to stand up with you on this important occasion. Choose someone who has no question about whether you are doing the right thing. I hope your special day will be a happy one and that you will allow no one to blemish it.**

**DEAR ABBY:** I’ve been on and off again with this boy for about a year now, and he is socially awkward whereas I am not. He is extremely funny and loyal.

I’m 13 and I think he wants to move to the next level of our relationship, and I’m not ready for that. He talks a lot of crap about my friends, too. I feel like I need a break from him. How do I let him know how I feel without sounding rude?

TEEN IN ALBERTA, CANADA

**DEAR TEEN:** Be clear in your messages to him. Tell

## DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



**him you don’t like the way he talks about your friends, and you don’t want to hear him do it again. If he pushes you to do ANYthing that makes you uncomfortable, tell him NO and that he should stop immediately. It is not rude to create boundaries for yourself; in fact, it is healthy. It is more important to be forthright than to be polite.**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order “How to Have a Lovely Wedding.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



Pastimes

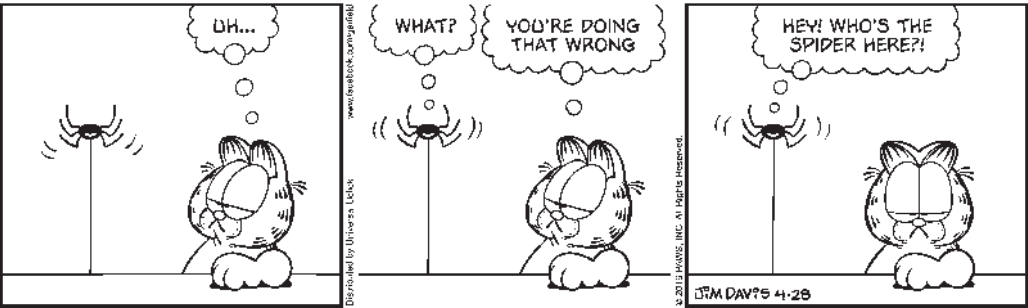
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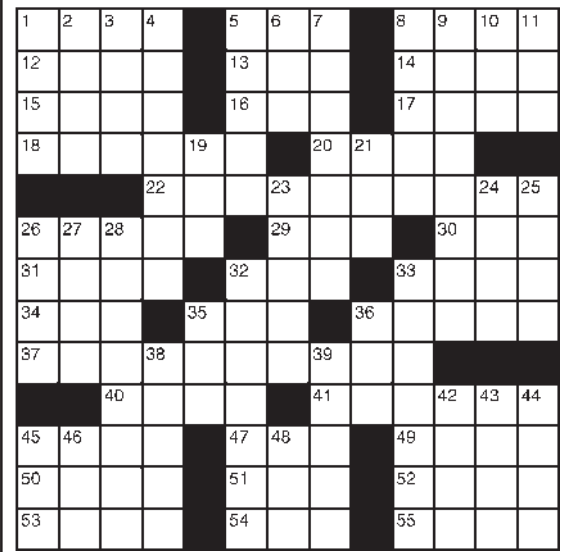
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 Deli pickles 37 Type of cherry 5 Spigot 8 Advertising award 12 Addict 13 Eggs Blythe 14 Vow 15 Nevada 47 Conk out 49 Lighten 50 Owl call 51 Call — day (quilt) 52 Greek vowels 53 Longings 54 ISP giant 55 Lopsided win

DOWN 1 Rotate 2 Cruising 3 Camera part 4 Create scarves with hooked needles 5 "— is human" 6 Glamorous Gardner 7 Living rooms 8 Raccoon's kin 9 Barkeep's cry 10 Addams cousin 11 Discovery cry 19 Small batteries 21 Away from WSW 23 Merri-ment 24 MP's quarry 25 Hardens 26 Eden evictee 27 Cougar 28 Zodiac stinger 32 Rural, peaceful locale 33 Trail-blazer 35 Nile biter 36 "CSI" evidence 38 Mom's sisters 39 Perfect 42 Peace-keeping org. 43 Birthright barterer 44 Take five 45 Your, biblically 46 Weed whacker 48 "Am — blame?"

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterdays answer 4-28



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jessica Alba, 35; Penelope Cruz, 42; Jay Leno, 66; Ann-Margret, 75

Happy Birthday: Patience and tolerance will be required when dealing with work-related situations. A forward-thinking attitude will help you get past any opposition or negativity you face. Make suggestions, but don't use brute force. Using reverse psychology will help you get your way. Personal improvements are within reach, along with romance and signing important contracts. Your numbers are 8, 10, 23, 28, 33, 41, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): An issue will surface with someone you work with. Don't let your emotions get in the way of an important decision. Being responsible, efficient and easy to get along with will be beneficial. Treat yourself to something nice. \*\*

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Open up about the way you feel and share your ideas and future plans with someone you believe will be instrumental regarding your progress. An investment should be researched, not handled impulsively or because of rumors or pressure tactics. \*\*\*\*

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't be tempted to participate in anything that involves excess, indulgence or questionable antics. Put your energy into making personal changes that will improve your health, physical appearance and relationships with loved ones. \*\*\*

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Try something different. Giving your surroundings a new look will lift your spirits. Not everyone will be happy with the choices you make, but for now it's best to follow your heart and your dreams. Do what comes naturally. \*\*\*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

4/28

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LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do what you feel is right, not what someone else wants you to do. It's important to be able to live with whatever decision you make or action you take. Be true to your beliefs. Romance will enhance your life. \*\*\*

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Share your thoughts and collaborate with people who inspire you. Get involved in functions that involve open discussions. A conference or business trip will bring good results and lead to an unusual encounter with someone special. \*\*\*\*

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep an open mind when discussing changes that will affect your bank account, home environment or a contract that needs to be negotiated. A change in the way you feel about something will help you make an important decision. \*\*

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Follow your intuition and work closely with individuals who have as much to offer creatively as you. A change in your social activities or routine will make you question your options regarding health and fitness. Strive for perfection. \*\*\*\*

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Problems will surface due to poor information. You are advised to work toward personal goals that will improve your health, appearance or love life. Take care of your responsibilities personally. Don't rely on a middleman for anything. \*\*\*

Yesterdays SUDOKU Answer

8	9	3	4	2	1	6	7	5
2	6	7	5	8	9	4	1	3
4	5	1	3	6	7	9	2	8
3	7	8	9	4	5	2	6	1
6	4	5	2	1	8	3	9	7
1	2	9	6	7	3	5	8	4
5	8	2	1	3	6	7	4	9
7	3	4	8	9	2	1	5	6
9	1	6	7	5	4	8	3	2

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick to the strategy that is easiest for you. A moneymaking opportunity will arise if you are willing to try something different. Negotiate contracts carefully. Offer incentives in order to get what you want. Changes to your domestic environment are favored. \*\*\*

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't get caught up in conversations that are controversial. Arguing will not help you accomplish your goals. Bring about the personal changes you have wanted to make for a long time. Put your needs first. Romance will improve your day. \*\*\*

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't give in to unreasonable demands or feel guilty for taking time out for yourself. Spending time with old friends or congregating with those who share your interests will make you feel good and lead to a promising encounter. \*\*\*\*

Birthday Baby: You are driven, outgoing and brave. You are impulsive and daring.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

WONDERWORD By DAVID QUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA Solution: 9 letters

A G P L B D O O W E G D I R L  
N I N O P U A Y A W R E T A W  
O T S F H E A N O T R O G C V  
G S W U A C W F T O R O A E C  
A E O N L N E L O T O S T S R  
R F L C I O I Q U N E E R E A  
R R U O A F P V G R C R R I A B  
A E B A O A D A I R A W P B C  
T B R S X S N E N A S C A R I  
M O O T A L M S T S O H N E T  
A T A M E M O R I A L L D E N  
R E D T O Y A W D E E P S Z A  
I K W C S T A O B R I D G E L  
N I A M K S U G A R M I L L T  
E B Y O R M O N D E L T O N A

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Atlantic, Bands, Biketoberfest, Boats, Bridge, Broadway, Bulow, Cars, Commerce, Crab, Deltona, Fun Coast, Golf, Halifax, Hosts, Inlet, Lagoon, LPGA, Main, Marine, Memorial, NASCAR, Ormond, Ortona, Pier, Ponce, Races, Ridgewood, Seabreeze, Speedway, Sugarmill, Tarragona, Tortugas, Tour, Veterans, View, Volusia, Waterway, Yaupon

Yesterday's Answer: Fashionable

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Please submit resume to [grandlandgroupcnmi@gmail.com](mailto:grandlandgroupcnmi@gmail.com)

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# Griffin out for rest of playoffs, Paul has hand surgery



**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Blake Griffin is out for the rest of the playoffs after aggravating his left quadriceps tendon and Chris Paul had right hand surgery Tuesday, leaving the stunned Los Angeles Clippers without their top two players for the remainder of their first-round series against Portland.

The team said Griffin had an MRI that revealed no further structural damage to the quad that he originally injured in a game on Dec. 25. He missed 41 games and an additional four as punishment for punching the team's assistant equipment manager, returning on April 3. He's expected to be ready for training camp in September. Griffin wasn't made available to reporters.

"You feel bad for Chris, you feel bad for Blake," said guard J.J. Redick, who is dealing with his own nagging left heel injury.

Paul had surgery to repair a hand fracture sustained in the third quarter of Monday night's 98-84 loss in Game 4 that allowed Portland to tie the best-of-seven series 2-2. He appeared to catch his hand on Gerald Henderson's jersey.

"C.P. is a reacher. He probably has the best hands in the league. At that time it got caught in the wrong place," coach Doc Rivers said. "It's amazing how things change for you."

Griffin averaged 15.0 points, 8.8 rebounds and 4.0 assists, while Paul averaged 23.8 points, 7.3 assists and 4.0 rebounds in the series.

Game 5 is Wednesday at Staples Center.

"We still have home court. No one has won a road game yet in this series," Rivers said. "Now we have to find a way of winning tomorrow



and that's as far as we can think right now. My job with the guys is to make sure that they're ready and focused. It's easy when you have the injuries we have to think all kinds of other stuff."

Rivers had not yet decided who will start in place of Griffin and Paul.

"We've had 10 different lineups on the board," he said.

"Most likely it will be a pretty big lineup."

The Clippers are 25-21 in regular-season games and 1-1 in the playoffs without Paul, who missed two games against Houston in last year's Western Conference semifinals.

"We have a very competitive basketball team and they have proven that all year," Rivers said. "We have won

games before without key guys and we can win games in the future without key guys."

In the final two weeks of the regular season, the Clippers won by two points at Oklahoma City and by three points in overtime at Utah without Griffin and Paul.

Now in his 10th season, Paul has yet to win a championship.

**AP**  
Los Angeles Clippers forward Blake Griffin, left, shoots over Portland Trail Blazers forward Maurice Harkless, right, during the first half of Game 4 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series Monday, April 25, 2016, in Portland, Ore.

"Chris is one of the great competitors that the league has ever seen," Golden State coach Steve Kerr said. "For him to go down right now it's brutal. He's worked his whole life to get here."

Paul controls the Clippers' offense like few others in the NBA. However, they installed a motion offense for when Paul wasn't on the floor this season, freeing up

scoring guards Jamal Crawford and Austin Rivers while letting anyone else get the ball moving.

"We were very effective at it," Doc Rivers said. "Thank God we did that because now playing without him we'll be in motion for 48 minutes."

For the third straight year in the playoffs—all under Rivers—the Clippers have been plagued by bad luck. The franchise that began in Buffalo, moved to San Diego and then Los Angeles has never advanced past the second round.

"Winning in the playoffs is tough and more so than anyone else, we've really proven that over the last three years," Redick said.

## Kerr wins Coach of the Year

**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—As Steve Kerr tried to cope with the headaches, nausea, pain and other concerning symptoms, there were times he wondered whether he would even come back to coach the Golden State Warriors this season, whether he even should return to the bench if not 100 percent healthy.

Complications from two back surgeries had sidelined him for the defending champions' record start, then Kerr found his way into the huddle again on Jan. 22 after a nearly four-month leave of absence. And on Tuesday, he earned NBA Coach of the Year honors for his Warriors' record 73-win season that topped the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls team he played for that went 72-10.

"There were moments I didn't know if I would get back at all this season," Kerr said as Golden State prepared for Wednesday's playoff Game 5 against Houston. "I'm really thankful I improved to the point where I could coach. Coaching has actually helped considerably as I've continued to heal. I sort of had to just take a leap of faith. If I was going to wait until I felt great I would have been waiting all season."

As Kerr's news conference was about to begin, in walked his coach from Palisades High, Jerry Marvin, and then former Arizona coach Luke Olson. Kerr was stunned.

Warriors general manager Bob Myers broke down as he discussed Kerr's triumph this season. The GM called daily to check on Kerr during his ordeal.

"I don't think everybody quite knows what, Steve, you've had to go through this year," Myers said, fighting back tears. "You deserve this award. You don't de-

serve it for winning, in my opinion, 73 games. You deserve it for coming to work every day with how you had to feel. No one quite understands that except for the people you go to work with every day. I just admire your courage, I admire you as a person, and when we hired you, a lot of people, and they're right, said, 'You guys found a great coach,' and we did. But I found a great friend. I love going to work with you every day. I hope you are here as long as you want to be here."

Kerr received 64 first-place votes from the panel of 130 media members who regularly cover the league. Portland's Terry Stotts was second. San Antonio's Gregg Popovich was third.

While Kerr missed the Warriors' first 43 games this season as he recovered, top assistant Luke Walton led Golden State to a 24-0 start and 39-4 mark.

"It lasted longer than any of us thought or hoped," said Walton, who recalled Kerr's constant reminders of, "We have really good players out there, we're going to be just fine."

Kerr's players saw their coach struggle through the physical challenges. He still spoke to the team before games even if he then went behind the scenes to watch.

"We saw it every day. The time that he's been back, he's had good days, bad days," small forward Harrison Barnes said. "You can kind of tell where he's still a little fatigued and having headaches. He's been fighting through it and he's been great for us."

Kerr couldn't wait to return, but he had to be patient and pick the right time so he was confident in finishing out the season.

## DeRozan scores 34, Raptors rally for 3-2 lead over Pacers

**TORONTO** (AP)—DeMar DeRozan finally turned in the All-Star effort Toronto has been waiting for in the playoffs.

DeRozan's big game, and an even bigger Raptors comeback, put Toronto on the brink of a second-round berth.

DeRozan scored 34 points and the Raptors held on for a 102-99 victory over the Indiana Pacers and a 3-2 lead in their first-round series Tuesday night when Solomon Hill's 3-pointer was ruled after the buzzer.

"I just felt like my normal self," said DeRozan, who came in shooting 29.6 percent (21 for 71) over the first four games of the series but connected on 10 of 22 shots in this one.

"It's all about patience," DeRozan added. "You can't get flustered, you can't get frustrated. You've got to stay the course. That's what we're going to continue to do."

The Raptors overcame 39 points from Paul George and a 13-point deficit in the fourth quarter, getting 14 points from Kyle Lowry.

Bismack Biyombo had 10 points and 16 rebounds for the second-seeded Raptors, who can clinch the first seven-game playoff series victory in franchise history by beating the Pacers in Indiana on Friday night.

"If we don't come in (Friday) with the mentality like we had in the fourth quarter, it's going to be a

long game," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said.

George Hill had 15 points and Myles Turner 14 for the Pacers, who led by as many as 17 and never trailed through the first three quarters before coming unglued in the fourth.

"It's awful to have had a chance to win on the road, go up 3-2, and come back home," George said. "Once again, we failed to live up to that moment."

### Hawks 10, Celtics 83

In Atlanta, Kent Bazemore sparked a stunning turnaround with three straight 3-pointers in the second quarter, and Atlanta reclaimed the upper hand in its playoff series against Boston with a rout.

The Hawks are up 3-2 in the

series and positioned to close it out Thursday in Boston. If Game 7 is needed, it would be Saturday in Atlanta.

This one started out horribly for Atlanta, which couldn't make a shot and trailed 29-19 midway through the second quarter. Then, suddenly, the Hawks looked like an entirely different team.

Led by Bazemore, Atlanta ripped off a 28-8 run to take control before halftime. The Hawks totally blew it open with a 42-point third quarter, heading to the final period up 89-62.

Mike Scott led the Hawks with 17 points, while Bazemore and Jeff Teague added 16 apiece. Evan Turner topped Boston with 15 points.



# Cespedes' 3-run pinch HR rallies Mets past Reds



**NEW YORK**

(AP)—Yoenis Cespedes re-

turned from a leg injury to line a tying, three-run homer as a pinch hitter in the seventh inning off Brandon Finnegan, slumping David Wright had a go-ahead single later in the inning and New York rallied past Cincinnati, 4-3, for its 10th straight win against the Reds.

Cespedes had missed three straight games because of a bruised right thigh and had fluid drained Monday. He electrified the small Citi Field crowd on a cool night when he rocketed a 93 mph fastball, the first pitch he saw from Finnegan, off the green wall that was the fence when the ballpark opened in 2009.

Wright, who had been 1 for 17 with runners in scoring position, broke the tie later in the inning against Tony Cingrani (0-2).

Logan Verrett (3-0) won in relief for the second straight day. Jeurys Familia closed for his seventh save in seven chances.



New York Mets Yoenis Cespedes, center, celebrates with teammates in the dugout after hitting a seventh-inning home run in a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds, Tuesday, April 26, 2016, in New York.

Jered Weaver (3-0) allowed four runs and nine hits over six innings and struck out four. The Angels scored one more run than they totaled in the right-hander's first three starts this season.

## Phillies 4, Nationals 3

In Washington, Andres Blanco's three hits included a two-run homer and he scored the go-ahead run on Michael Franco's seventh-inning double, helping Philadelphia edge Bryce Harper and Washington.

Jeanmar Gomez, Philadelphia's fourth pitcher, got Harper to ground out to third with a man on first in the ninth to end the game and earn his fifth save.

## Cardinals 8, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Carlos Martinez gave up three hits in eight scoreless innings, Brandon Moss and Stephen Piscotty homered and St. Louis beat Arizona.

Martinez (4-0) won for the fourth time in four starts. The 24-year-old right-hander held the Diamondbacks without a hit until David Peralta's one-out single in the fourth.

Moss had four hits, including a three-run homer in the fifth inning. Piscotty added a two-run shot in the seventh.

## Pirates 9, Rockies 4

In Denver, slumping outfielder Andrew McCutchen hit three homers and drove in five runs to help the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Colorado Rockies on Tuesday night.

This was the second time McCutchen has gone deep three times in a game. He also accomplished the feat on Aug. 1, 2009, against Washington.

## White Sox 10, Blue Jays 1

In Toronto, Chris Sale won again, pitching eight sharp innings and leading Chicago over Toronto for its fifth straight win.

Sale (5-0) has won all of his starts this season and leads the majors in victories. The lefty ace has a 1.66 ERA.

## Cubs 4, Brewers 3

In Chicago, Addison Russell's two-out, two-run triple in the sixth inning snapped a tie and Chicago held off Milwaukee to secure its best 20-game start since 1907.

Anthony Rizzo added an RBI single in the seventh and Adam Warren (2-0) struck out three in two scoreless innings as the Cubs improved to 15-5, surpassing the 1969 club's 14-6 start. The 1907 World Series-winning team began 16-4.

## Twins 6, Indians 5

In Minneapolis, Miguel Sano singled in a run with one out in the ninth inning, giving Minnesota walk-off win over Cleveland.

Minnesota rallied after Mike Napoli homered off Kevin Jepsen (2-3) in the top of the ninth to tie the game 5-5. It

was Jepsen's third blown save in five chances.

## Red Sox 11, Braves 4

In Atlanta, David Price matched his career high with 14 strikeouts, Travis Shaw homered and drove in five runs and Boston beat Atlanta as the Braves' staggering home-run drought reached 15 games.

The Braves, who opened the season with nine straight losses, have lost seven straight.

## Marlins 6, Dodgers 3

In Los Angeles, Giancarlo Stanton homered for the third straight game, hitting a go-ahead, three-run shot off Clayton Kershaw, and Miami rallied to beat Los Angeles for its third straight victory.

The Marlins trailed 3-0 before scoring five runs in the sixth inning off Kershaw (2-1), capped by Stanton's drive into the center-field bleachers.

## Athletics 5, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Rich Hill allowed four hits in seven scoreless innings, and Oakland beat Detroit.

Marcus Semien homered for the A's, and Hill (3-2) breezed through Detroit's righty-heavy lineup with little trouble. The left-hander struck out eight and wasn't really in any jams after he escaped the first inning with two on.

## Rays 3, Orioles 1

In St. Petersburg, Kevin Kiermaier hit a two-run homer and Tampa Bay beat Baltimore.

After Steven Souza Jr. had a two-out single in the sixth, Kiermaier put the Rays up 3-1

on his two-run shot off Ubaldo Jimenez (1-2).

## Giants 1, Padres 0

In San Francisco, Johnny Cueto pitched a seven-hitter for his seventh career shutout to outwork James Shields, and San Francisco beat San Diego.

Cueto (4-1) struck out a season-high 11 batters, walked one and repeatedly pitched out of trouble to help the Giants to their seventh straight home win against the Padres. It was his 13th career complete game.

## Mariners 11, Astros 1

In Seattle, Robinson Cano hit a grand slam and drove in six runs, Nathan Karns threw seven shutout innings and Seattle beat Houston.

Cano reached 1,000 RBI in his career with a two-run single in the fifth and then crushed his seventh-inning grand slam.

Karns (2-1) allowed two hits and struck out six while walking three.

## Rangers 10, Yankees 1

In Arlington, A.J. Griffin pitched eight strong innings,

Mitch Moreland hit a bases-loaded two-run single during a five-run third and Texas beat New York.

The Rangers ended a four-game skid, during which they totaled five runs. They were no-hit for six innings by Yankees right-hander Nathan Eovaldi on Monday night.

## Angels 9, Royals 4

In Anaheim, Johnny Giavotella drove in three runs with his first homer of the season, Mike Trout and Carlos Perez had two-run singles and Los Angeles beat Kansas City.

## With draft looming, Rams seem confident about No. 1 pick



**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Rams general manager Les Snead and coach

Jeff Fisher are about to make the biggest choice of their careers, and they figure they can't go wrong.

When the Rams make the top selection in the NFL draft on Thursday, either Jared Goff or Carson Wentz will become their franchise quarterback for their return season in Los Angeles.

Although the Rams certainly appeared to know their choice Tuesday, Snead claimed the Rams' bold trade to the top of the draft gave them two can't-miss options.

"I do think both of the players are very good, and both are going to have very good careers," Snead said.

"But I can tell you that we wanted to get to No. 1 so that we would have a choice, and be able to pick one of the two.

But in terms of pressure, just because there's two (candidates), I don't think that's anything added. We wanted to get there to have that choice."

The trade cost the Rams six picks while returning three. They don't currently have another pick this weekend until Saturday's fourth round.

But Snead and Fisher, who make the Rams' decisions together, have spent their four losing seasons building a franchise that was ready to take this leap, with its core of young talent now experienced enough to support a star rookie quarterback into a playoff race.

With just two days to go, the Rams appeared confident they've got their man.

"We've spent a great deal of time," Fisher said. "Probably three visits with each quarterback, hours and hours and hours. We've done our research and studied and talked to dozens and dozens of people that are close to

both candidates. We've done our work. They're both going to play in this league, and they're both going to be very good players."

Fisher and Snead won't inform the quarterback they've chosen until right before head equipment manager Jim Lake takes the card to the commissioner in Chicago.

"There's only a few things better in life than this phone call," Fisher said. "It's a great experience for them, so we don't want to deny our pick that opportunity to experience that."

The Rams began a monumental week in franchise history with a news conference at the downtown hotel serving as their headquarters for both the draft and their reintroduction to the nation's second-largest media market.

The team is hosting a large fan party Thursday in the LA Live entertainment district to celebrate the No. 1 pick, who will fly to Los Angeles

on Friday. He'll be at next weekend's rookie minicamp in coastal Oxnard, the Rams' home until training camp in Orange County.

Even with everything riding on the new quarterback, Fisher and Snead don't necessarily expect him to play Sept. 12 when the Rams begin the regular season in Santa Clara, California, against the 49ers.

"As far as when and how soon he plays ... we can't put a timetable on that," Fisher said. "We'll play him when he's ready. We have the philosophy not to ask him to do something he can't do and subject him to failure."

But Snead acknowledges most NFL draft picks must play "sooner than later." He declined to say whether he has begun trade discussions around veteran quarterbacks Nick Foles, Case Keenum and Sean Mannion, but the conversations likely will heat up after the draft.



# 670 Sonics beat Wong, secure second seeding

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The 670 Sonics prevailed in the lone game played in the U15 division of the Inaugural Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League after routing Wong, 59-46, last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Last weekend was the conclusion of the round-robin regular season and the Sonics ended up at second place with

their 5-1 record, a win behind the unbeaten and top finishers Ol'Aces (6-0), Wong wrapped up the elimination round with a 4-2 card to rank third and ahead of NMI Rollers (3-3). The Top 4 squads will play in the playoffs, beginning this Saturday, while the Tanapag Warriors (2-4), Kanaka Gray (1-5), and Kanaka Blue (0-5) were out of the competition. Tanapag and NMI Rollers won via forfeits against

Kanaka Gray and Blue, respectively.

John Caruana, Rafael Ordone, and Champ Sabangan teamed up in lifting the Sonics to the 13-point win. Caruana and Ordone led all scorers as they registered 12 points apiece, while Sabangan chipped in 11.

The Sonics and Wong engaged in a close fight in the first

three periods before the former gained momentum in the fourth and final canto to earn the double-digit spread. Sabangan anchored the breakaway, as he drilled the Sonics' first 6 points in the fourth frame.

Caruana and Ordone added 4 markers apiece in the pivotal fourth.

Meanwhile, in the boys U18 game last Monday, Rollers

Blue crushed the Junior Sonics, 103-51.

With the victory, Rollers Blue improved its record to 5-1 and tied the 670 Sonics in first place (pending results of last night's game) in the nine-team field. The Junior Sonics are at the cellar, matching the 1-5 mark of Wong.

The Kagman Riserz is lurking behind Rollers Blue and 670 Sonics with its 4-1 card, while the Ol'Aces are ranked

third with their 3-1 slate, followed by Tanapag Warriors (2-3), Rollers Red (1-3), and Rollers White (1-3).

Christian Arceo towed Rollers Blue to the easy victory after scoring 26 points, while Aaron Ogunoro backed him up, contributing 16.

## BRAVES

From Page 28

ter that as relief pitcher A.J. Johnson struck out two batters in the last inning and McDonald's was called for a 1-2-3 inning. Johnson, who came in for Camacho late in the second inning threw a one-hitter and got seven strikeouts.

In the other game last Sunday, the Comets made up for their slow start, scoring all 13 runs in the last four innings to beat the Ol'Aces and keep their record perfect after 10 games.

The Comets failed to hit the board in the first two innings before firing four runs each in the third and fourth tallying three and two in the fifth and sixth. Reid Teregeyo and Bing Nakamura had three runs apiece, while Ross Arriola and Sab Saures added two each. Justin Magofna, R.J. Muna, and Javen Aldan also reached for the Comets.

The Ol'Aces, on the other hand, drew their two runs off a solo homer from Nathan Aizon and Ken Kaipat, who made it home off a wild pitch.

In other results over the weekend, the Comets registered their ninth victory against the Little Legals, 5-3, while the Twins and Falcons prevailed against IT&E Regulators, 6-5, and McDonald's, 17-0, respectively.

## Without Ronaldo, Madrid holds City to scoreless draw

MANCHESTER, England (AP)—Real Madrid failed to turn late domination into a goal without the injured Cristiano Ronaldo as Manchester City held on for a 0-0 draw in the first leg of their Champions League semifinal on Tuesday.

City goalkeeper Joe Hart prevented Madrid from taking an away goal back to Spain for next week's second leg, producing close-range saves from Casemiro and Pepe in the final 10 minutes of a cagey match at Etihad Stadium.

"Before the game, it was 50-50," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "I think it's the same."

City may not get a better chance to beat Madrid, which played half of the first leg without its two most potent attackers. Ronaldo had been nursing a right thigh injury and "felt something" in a training session Monday, according to Zidane, while Karim Benzema started but didn't come out for the second half after attempting to play through a knee problem.

City, though, couldn't capitalize and managed just



Real Madrid's Rodriguez Jese and Manchester City's Nicolas Otamendi, right, battle for the ball during the Champions League semifinal soccer match at the Etihad Stadium, Manchester, England, Tuesday April 26, 2016.

two shots on target—one of which was a free kick from Kevin De Bruyne that was tipped over the bar in second-half injury time.

"We were not very creative," City manager Manuel Pellegrini said. "But in terms of intent, we had most intent

to win the game."

Zidane said he was unsure if Ronaldo and Benzema, who have scored 74 goals between them this season, will be fit for the second leg. "We have to take it day by day," the



Frenchman said.

A match between the grand master of European soccer—Madrid is a record 10-time European champion—and a recent ar-

table proved to be something of a let-down. Perhaps injuries played a part, with City, already without Yaya Toure (muscle problem), losing David Silva to a hamstring complaint late in the first half.

The absence of Ronaldo gave City a pre-game lift and ensured Madrid lacked a cutting edge going forward. Madrid's central-midfield trio of Casemiro, Luka Modric and Toni Kroos rarely ventured forward to help out the front three, preferring instead to give the visitors a solid block in front of the defense.

City saw plenty of the ball in a tight first half but never threatened Madrid goalkeeper Keylor Navas, and then lost its way after the break.

The aerial route proved to be Madrid's likeliest chance of scoring.

Hart had to be alert to save a header from the unmarked Sergio Ramos at a corner early in the second half, before Jese—a halftime replacement for Benzema—met a right-wing cross with a header that glanced the top of the crossbar and bounced over.

## KENTO

From Page 28

cated Lennosuke's feat in the 50m butterfly after clocking in at 29.84 seconds. Akimaru eclipsed his PBT (29.84) and led 16 other finishers in the one-lap race.

In the 200m freestyle, 12 completed the race with Lennosuke lording it over the field with his 2:25.77, while his teammate Christian Villacrusis ruled the 200m breaststroke after recording 3:07.93.

Villacrusis also joined the 100m butterfly where he finished third (1:28.92) behind Akimaru (1:06.01) and David Boyer (1:18.98). Four others participated in the event.

In the 50m breaststroke, Akimaru earned his second PBT after posting the field's best 35.21 seconds, more than a second faster than his previous mark of 36.29

seconds.

In the 100m backstroke, Tsunami Saipan's Takumi Sugie showed the way after submitting 1:13.45, while SSC's Salofi Welch recorded the fastest time in the 100m breaststroke after checking in at 1:27.35.

In the 50m freestyle, Akimaru topped the boys field after registering 26.90 seconds, while Tsunami Saipan's Angel De Jesus led the girls division with her 31.37 seconds. The 50m freestyle drew the most swimmers (38).

Meanwhile, SSC coach Jacoby Winkfield said they created the Sak Sprint meet to recognize the Sakovichs' hard work in and out of the pool.

"Through swimming, 'Mr. and Mrs.', as they were affectionately called, had a profound impact not only in the lives of so many of the youth on Saipan, but also on

swimming in Oceania as a whole. Their passion and dedication to the sport of swimming are unparalleled in Micronesia and the legacy that they built will live on in the character of our swimmers," Winkfield said.

"While swimming was their main sport, they are both proponents of a healthy and active lifestyle. Whether it be participating in Tagaman or XTERRA and joining island relay and turkey trot, windsurfing, ocean swim, or any other sport, competitive or recreational, they always pushed their swimmers to be active and be healthy all the while ensuring that their swimmers do well in school and focus on education above all," Winkfield added.

The SSC coach also took note of some PBTs and lauded every swimmers' efforts in the sprint meet.

"There were several per-

sonal best times and overall the coaches were happy with the swimmers performances. This meet did not see as many PB's, but I was happy with the swimmers ability to put each disappointing race behind them and move on to the next swim. Swimming is a cruel sport that it is very hard to get a personal best every single time you race and I think our swimmers did a great job of continuing to smile even when things did not go exactly how they wanted," Winkfield said.

"On a more somber note, SSC would like to offer its condolences to the Jordan family with the recent passing of Mrs. Ann Jordan. Mrs. Jordan has been an avid supporter SSC for over 25 years. She supported the club at all levels as a parent, grandparent, and volunteer. Her smile and nurturing spirit will be missed. Thank you Mrs. Jordan," Winkfield ended.

## FC

From Page 28

fall champion Matansa (6-0-4) finished third. MP United (4-1-5) came in at fourth and was followed by Tan Holdings (2-0-8), and Paire (1-0-8).

Matansa and Tan Holdings ended their campaign this season on a winning note.

Tan Holdings played in the second game last Saturday and topped Paire, 4-1. Catherine Joy Barroza had a pair for Tan Holdings, which got one goal apiece from Raina Avelino and Jenny Ann Capayas. Paire drew its lone goal from Guinevere Borja.

In the final match last weekend, Matansa edged MP United, 2-1. Sunny Woo hit the game-winning goal in the second half, while Bernadette Horey knocked in the other goal for Matansa in the first frame. Gillian Villagomez also scored for MP United in the opening half.

In other results, MP United formalized its claim to the boys U17 division championship after routing Kanoa, 14-0, at the Oleai Sports Complex.

MP United, which had already clinched the title two weeks ago after its closest pursuer Matansa fell to Tan Holdings, finished the double-round-robin season with a 6-1-1 mark. Matansa ended up with a 5-1-2 slate, while Tan Holdings (5-0-3), Paire (2-0-6), and Kanoa (1-0-7) were ranked third to fifth, respectively.

Sun Joon Tenorio peppered the hapless Kanoa with eight goals, while Michael Lee had a pair. Joshua Abragan, Chris Aninzo, Alex Park, and Oliver Lee chipped in one apiece.

In the other boys U17 match last weekend, Tan Holdings also eased past Paire, 5-1.

Mark Esalan tallied two goals for Tan Holdings, which drew one apiece from Anthony Fruit, John Tam, and Riko Reyes.



# 5th Marianas Trench Throwdown

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Joey Tudela of the CNMI competes in the fifth edition of the Marianas Trench Throwdown last week at the Chamorri CrossFit Gym in Tamuning, Guam.



Harold Aranda of CrossFit Hita makes a successful lift in the deadlift event.



Participants in the run-swim-run event pose for a photo before the race.



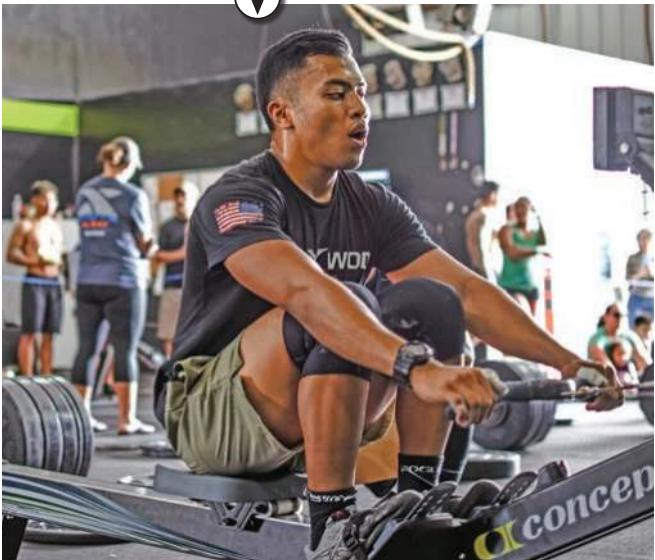
Salvi Villanueva adjusts the rowing machine before starting with the exercise.



Salvi Villanueva, right, looks at one of the judges after the lift.

A competitor performs one of the exercises in the WODs.

Salvi Villanueva performs one of the exercises in the workout of the day on his way to winning the Men's RX division.



From left, Tribe Marianas' Salvi Villanueva, runner-up Michael James of CrossFit Latte Stone, and Unified CrossFit's Gabriel Martinez pose for a photo.





Griffin out for  
rest of playoffs,  
Paul has hand  
surgery

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Cespedes' 3-run  
pinch HR rallies  
Mets past Reds

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Three-peat for Shirley's FC



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Shirley's FC's Jerlyn Castillo, right, dribbles away from two Kanoa FC defenders during their girls U15 game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the San Antonio Middle School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Shirley's Football Club earned its third straight girls U15 championship after beating Kanoa FC, 2-1, last Saturday in the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League at the San Antonio Middle School Field.

Shirley's, which ruled the youth league's spring and fall seasons last year, finished the 2016 spring season with a 9-0-1 win-draw-loss record to foil Kanoa FC's bid for its first-ever division crown. Kanoa, entering last Saturday's crucial match, was breathing down Shirley's neck with its 6-1-1 record against the eventual champion's 8-0-1. A Kanoa win against Shirley's and another one versus Paire (this Saturday) would have given the former the girls U15 tiara.

Kanoa, which incidentally handed Shirley's its lone loss this season after prevailing in their first meeting in the double-robin robin contest, 4-2, boosted its chance to make it two in a row after taking a 1-0 halftime lead. Princess Alcan-

tara put Kanoa on top with her goal in the 19th minute.

A conversion from Katherine Magat three minutes into the second half tied the match, while Jerlyn Castillo scored the go-ahead for Shirley's in the 54th minute. Shirley's then hung tough

on defense to preserve its shaky lead and secure the division championship.

Kanoa (6-1-2) settled for the runner-up honors, regardless of its last game this Saturday, while 2014 spring and

See FC on Page 26



## Braves, Comets down opponents



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Braves pitcher delivers to a McDonald's batter during their first meeting in the Majors division of the SLLB at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The Braves and Comets recorded contrasting wins in the Majors division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball last Sunday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The Comets eased past the Ol' Aces in the first game, 13-2, while the Braves pulled off an 8-6 triumph over McDonald's in the second match.

Tristan Norita led the

Braves' win, as he scored three RBIs, including a two-run homer at the bottom of the third inning that gave his team a 6-5 lead. Norita was 2-for-3 at bat and also made one of the two runs in the fifth inning to seal the victory for the Braves.

Norita earlier had an RBI double and reached home off a McDonald's error at the bottom of the first for the Braves' 2-1 advantage. Ton Acosta had an RBI single for McDonald's at the top of the first, while Dillon Santos hit a two-RBI double and their team got two more runs off the Braves' miscues in the second inning to grab the lead, 5-4. The Braves' two other runs in the second inning came off Ignacio Santos' RBI single and Isidro Cabrera's sacrifice out.

The seesaw battle continued in the third with Norita putting the Braves on the lead anew, 6-5, as his homer also drove Angelo Igitol home. McDonald's then forced a tie in the fourth inning off Lily Podziewski's run before the Braves broke the deadlock in the fifth with Norita and Heath Camacho scoring from their foes' errors.

The Braves never relinquished the driver's seat after See BRAVES on Page 26

## Kento, Lennosuke share spotlight in Sak Sprint

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru and Lennosuke Suzuki

stood out in the 2016 Sak Sprint Meet held last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in honor of SSC founders Bill and Jeane Sakovich.

There were 12 events in the inaugural meet with members of both SSC and Tsunami Saipan competing in the races. The weekend tournament started with



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru is seen here competing in the 50m butterfly race of the 2016 Saipan International Invitational Swim Meet held last March at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

the 200m individual medley with SSC's Lennosuke Suzuki posting the fastest time (2:39.05) and beating four other swimmers.

Next up was the 100m freestyle event with 24 swimmers participating in the two-lap race. SSC's Kento Akimaru had the best time and was the only swimmer to break the one-minute barrier after logging 58.50 seconds.

In the 50m backstroke, which drew 12 swimmers, Lennosuke was the fastest anew with his 35.48 seconds, while Akimaru dupli-

See KENTO on Page 26